

Ontario. Legislative Assembly

Standing Committee on Supply.
Debate



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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, May 3, 1971
Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1971

The committee met at 3:35 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Mr. Chairman: We are going to call this meeting to order, we have a quorum.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Where is the chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Chairman is away on some very urgent government business.

At this time we will call on the hon. minister for his opening statement.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to present for the first time to this committee the estimates of my department and the Ontario Water Resources Commission. In view of the informality of the occasion, I thought I might dispense with the usual lengthy review of the activities of the various branches of the department and instead deal briefly with some of the problems we currently face in the field of environmental conservation and what we hope to do about them in the next 12 months.

As members of the committee are undoubtedly aware, the Speech from the Throne indicated quite definitely the thinking of the present government about the environment. As His Honour the Lieutenant Governor said on that occasion:

All provincial programmes involved in environmental conservation, management and protection will be brought together in one department. Key branches of the Ontario Water Resources Commission, together with specific functions of the environmental health services branch of The Department of Health, will be integrated with the existing Department of Energy and Resources Management. All will be reconstituted as the Ontario Department of the Environment.

I hope to introduce a comprehensive bill to deal with these proposals this month.

Closely related to the new department will be the appointment of an environmental council to investigate and report on potential new pollution hazards. Although the estimates being tabled today do not show all the financial resources needed to accomplish our objectives, may I point out that they will be augmented by resources now listed in the estimates of The Department of Health and the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

I should point out that the combined estimates of my department and the commission, even without the changes I have outlined, are in excess of \$100 million in the current fiscal year.

To briefly review my department's activities in the last 12 months, I am particularly pleased that we have extended our air pollution index from its original location in Metropolitan Toronto to monitor contaminants in Hamilton, Windsor and Sudbury. I think all members of the committee will agree with me that this index has proved extremely useful in keeping air pollution to manageable levels in these four industrial centres. As members are aware, when the index, which measures the level of sulphur dioxide and particulate matter in the atmosphere exceeds 32, we ask for voluntary restraint. When it exceeds 50, as it did on two occasions last year, I have the authority to order mandatory cutbacks.

Just recently I issued such orders to 15 firms and government buildings in downtown Toronto and it was interesting to note the pollution level quickly dropped to more acceptable levels.

It is fair to say that we are the only jurisdiction in Canada—and perhaps in North America—to keep such a detailed and accurate check on the levels of contaminants which in high concentrations have proved injurious to human health in the past. We are also working with our American neighbours to obtain reciprocal agreements to ensure that the corrective measures being taken by Ontario industries are not in vain.

I am pleased to be able to inform the committee that all oil refineries, steel mills and

foundries in the province are now under what we call ministerial orders. These orders set out timetables for the installation of pollution abatement equipment with quite healthy penalties provided for failure to meet our deadlines. Most of these programmes are scheduled for completion by 1975 and I think members will see a marked improvement in air quality in major urban centres by that time.

I might also mention that we have introduced sulphur fuel regulations for Metropolitan Toronto which limit the percentage of this pollutant in fuel oil and coal used in this region.

My air management branch is currently examining better ways of monitoring and checking automobile exhaust systems and is looking into the merits of various new control systems being developed. As members know, we took steps to reduce pollution caused by automobiles in Ontario beginning with the 1969 models. Our legislation has become more stringent each year and by 1972 a new car coming off the assembly line will produce 80 per cent less contamination than that caused by a 1968 model.

Since the introduction of our Waste Management Act last year, we have begun a programme of assisting municipalities in bringing their dump operations up to our standards. It is not our intention to take over this function from local authorities but we are anxious to accelerate the upgrading process.

Our conservation authorities have launched a two-pronged programme designed to preserve the Niagara Escarpment and lakefront lands for future generations. A number of the authorities have taken advantage of the province's offer to pay 75 per cent of the cost of acquiring escarpment land and have purchased roughly 4,000 acres to date.

Meanwhile, the Metro Toronto and Credit Valley conservation authorities are working on a development plan for the Lake Ontario waterfront stretching roughly from Ajax to Port Credit. In a similar project, the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority and the province joined to buy a 142-acre parcel fronting on Lake Ontario east of Hamilton for development as a regional park.

These are all examples of the province co-operating with local authorities to preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

In the last 12 months we have seen the amalgamation of the Bigg and Otter authorities to form the new Long Point Conserva-

tion Authority. We have also seen the Holland Valley authority enlarged and renamed the South Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority.

Dealing with the estimates of the Ontario Water Resources Commission, I cannot help expressing my deep concern about the failure of the federal government to commit adequate funds to the construction of sewage treatment plants and trunk mains in Ontario. Ottawa's recently developed interest in pollution has resulted in the preparation or introduction of legislation dealing with air and water quality across Canada. Unfortunately, we have had little else but legislation to date.

Last year, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation budgeted only \$50 million for sewage plant construction across Canada. Ontario's share of \$25 million was committed by last October. There was such an overflow of projects that we have already spent the bulk of Ontario's 1971 allocation of \$27 million.

When members consider that last year Ontario approved some \$154 million worth of sewage treatment facilities alone, it seems obvious that a much greater financial commitment on Ottawa's part is required if all the projects being prepared by Ontario municipalities are now to proceed on schedule. It is a fact of life, gentlemen, that some municipalities just will not proceed with these badly needed works unless they can obtain CMHC loans with their forgiveness clauses.

There will be a similar need for a substantial commitment of federal funds if we are to meet the timetable set by the International Joint Commission for the installation of nutrient treatment facilities in municipalities in the Lake Erie and Lake Ontario watersheds. The commission has told municipalities in these two basins that these facilities, needed to control algae growth and restore water quality, must be installed by 1973 and 1975 respectively.

Ottawa has endorsed these IJC recommendations and we trust that financial help to implement this \$40 million programme will be forthcoming.

Members recognize, I am sure, the vital importance of international co-operation if our efforts here in Ontario are to be worthwhile. In this regard I am hopeful that Governor William Milliken of Michigan will call a second Great Lakes conference this summer to develop the initiatives taken in Toronto last September. I would personally welcome such a conference and the oppor-

tunity to press Ontario's desire for uniform standards in the Great Lakes basin.

In the industrial waste field the commission has required the installation of treatment facilities necessary for the solution of many of the industrial waste problems in the province. Since 1965, when this programme was accelerated, industry has appropriated in their neighbourhood of \$80 million for waste treatment facilities. An additional \$100 million is estimated to have been spent by industry on waste treatment facilities since the commission was established in 1957.

While both the municipal and the industrial waste problems of the province have received a great deal of attention in recent years, and very significant progress has been made in the correction of these problems, there are still areas where further action must now be taken in order to remedy the longer standing difficulties.

I would refer, first of all, to two areas of concern in the industrial waste field where the government proposes to lend assistance in the working out of effective corrective measures.

The first of these is that situation involving old-established industries which are financially unable to undertake large capital expenditures for waste treatments. It is the intention of the government to extend the provincial project programme, including the provision of facilities for such industry where necessary.

A total of \$5 million in this budget will be used by the OWRC in the construction of such facilities this year. The money, which will be over and above the OWRC provincial projects for 1971-1972, will be administered on the same basis as a normal provincial project, with the expenditures being recovered from the industries concerned over a specified number of years. The provision of this type of assistance will enable the government to exert stronger pressures on those remaining industries where adequate pollution control measures have not yet been taken.

The second situation on which the government proposes to take action involves the handling of certain mining waste problems, particularly in the uranium mining field. Moneys will be included in the budget to enable the OWRC to undertake the engineering studies necessary for the solution of these complex problems.

In its continuing concern for the improvement of water quality of our recreational lakes, a considerably expanded programme of

field work and analysis is being planned involving some 75 lakes this summer. The programme, which will require \$700,000, will involve the carrying out of preliminary investigation of these lakes, first of all, and, based on the findings, efforts will then be concentrated on those lakes where definite problems are indicated.

This recreational lake programme, which will provide us with a much more comprehensive picture of our recreational water resources, will also be tied in with the cottage programme which the OWRC is undertaking with The Department of Health with respect to septic tank installation. Last year we inspected some 4,000 cottages and resort properties in the Kawartha Lakes region and ordered several hundred owners to correct defective septic systems. This programme will be continued in the Kawarthas this summer, with some work also being done in other areas where particular pollution problems have developed.

Another major programme planned for this year is that related to the combined sewer problem facing a number of municipalities, and which continues to pose a serious problem even in those municipalities which have extensive sewage treatment facilities. The separation of storm sewers from sanitary sewers, or alternative solutions to this problem, will be a large and costly undertaking and one which must receive our early attention.

To this end the government is proposing an additional item of \$400,000 for engineering studies to be undertaken by OWRC this year. Municipalities will be selected on a priority basis, depending upon the seriousness of the situation in the particular municipality in respect to receiving quality, water quality and use.

Mr. Chairman: May I call on the Liberal?

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Yes, you may, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Having heard the minister's statement I am not so sure I am as happy as I was when I sat down. However, it does give me a great deal of pleasure to make a few opening remarks concerning these estimates.

I would just like to run down some of the things that the minister mentioned in his opening remarks and some of them I must take exception to. He mentioned that he is going to set up an environmental council and we are glad to hear this. As you will recall, Mr. Chairman, last year in these very estimates, and prior to that, I recommended that

such an environmental council be set up and, as a matter of fact, I introduced a bill into the Legislature, outlining the duties and responsibilities of that council.

In the minister's opening remarks, and I hope he will expand on these later, he said that the council would study and investigate new and potential hazards to the environment. I gather from that remark that the environmental council, which I envisage as an independent body—independent of direct ministerial control—is not going to study and investigate pollution problems as they currently exist in the province. Perhaps the minister could nod one way or the other and give me some kind of answer, at this time, to save further remarks.

Mr. Chairman: Would you like to carry on and when you are finished the minister may make more comments.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The minister was patting himself and the department on the back about the great job they are doing in fighting pollution. He mentioned that the budget has increased by, I would say, a little less than 10 per cent. When we look at the estimates of The Department of Energy and Resources Management we find in fact that they have increased from some \$91 million last year to a little over \$100 million this year.

What the minister did not point out to us was that over 50 per cent of that—\$52,897,000—is for the provision of sewage and water facilities and related funding. In other words, 52 per cent of the budget or better is going for the provision of sewage and water treatment, which will be passed on in the form of loans and capital grants to the municipalities for sewer and water. This is an increase of some \$15 million from last year's programme.

In effect, therefore, other than the municipal sewer and water treatment plants, the department is only spending some \$48 million this year on pollution control.

Perhaps the minister can also indicate, in his remarks later on, whether or not the \$52 million that is funded for sewage and water treatment includes a grant or loan from Ottawa? The minister mentioned \$25 million as part of the federal programme that came to Ontario last year.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I can shake my head now.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You know the answer to that one. Good. Fine.

In any case, the sums mentioned and involved in what has to be one of the most serious problems confronting us today, are really negligible. I do not think the minister or the department, but particularly the minister, can be overly proud of the initiatives that they have taken in this regard, certainly if money expended is any criterion.

I notice absence from the minister's remarks—and I have not been able to find it in the summary of the estimates—of any notice, for instance, of any funds being available or set aside for noise pollution or research into noise pollution. Perhaps the minister will indicate later on whether, in fact, there are any set aside for that.

I expected that before this time or in the minister's opening remarks he would also tell us about the proposed legislation in regard to natural gas pipelines. The minister himself will recall that during the opening remarks of this department last year he made a commitment or indicated that there was going to be legislation available to ensure that there was not another explosion such as the one that happened at Malton.

Unless this came out in the form of legislation which I have not seen, there certainly has been no legislation before the House, nor any indication that there will be in regard to this problem.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): It is now in The Department of Labour, and legislation was brought in last fall—safety regulations.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Safety regulations? All right, I am sorry.

The hon. minister also neglected in his remarks to mention anything in regard to the recycling of waste, which is one of the current topics in environmental control. We wonder on this side if his department is taking any initiative in this regard.

The minister also mentioned the Great Lakes conference, and in effect, he called upon Governor Milliken of Michigan to issue the invitations this time. I suppose the idea is that we will all go down to Detroit and have a big bunfight down there, and again put a little—

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): In Windsor?

Mr. T. P. Reid: I doubt whether it will be Windsor, but we will put a little window-dressing around the problem of pollution in the Great Lakes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is mercury in the caviar—

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am sure that the minister has moved on to even higher levels of discrimination and taste than caviar.

But surely the Great Lakes conference was called last time by the Ontario government after, I might say, great urging from this side by the opposition. It has already been documented what happened at that conference—very little.

I must say the Minister of Energy and Resources Management made a valiant attempt to come to some firm decision as to what should be done in cleaning up the Great Lakes. He was thwarted in this move by the Premier (Mr. Davis) who indicated that Ontario certainly was not ready to give up any of its sovereignty or control over its jurisdiction, even if it meant the death of the various Great Lakes.

I would suggest to the minister that perhaps he should take it upon himself once more to call a similar conference, but in the invitation list certain concrete proposals that will have an effect on the Great Lakes. I am sure that the minister would be the first to agree in private that very little, other than perhaps a shaking of hands and a great deal of camaraderie, was accomplished at the last conference.

Having made those remarks on the minister's opening remarks, I would like to say a few things that I have jotted down here, Mr. Chairman. One of them is that we look upon the Great Lakes, which I have just been talking about, as one of the highest priorities in pollution control in the Province of Ontario. It is fairly easy to range across the whole scope of the estimates in my opening remarks, but we are going to have an opportunity to deal with the individual votes as we get to them.

I would like, therefore, to get on to discussing the Great Lakes Institute and the work it is doing and what I would almost call the non-interest of this government in that programme. I am going to talk primarily about the transfer payment of \$100,000, which is found on page 71 in the breakdown under main office; \$100,000 to the University of Toronto in regard to the Great Lakes Institute. We are going to talk about this in these remarks and the general co-ordination of pollution control in the Great Lakes, and this will constitute the bulk of my remarks this afternoon.

This \$100,000 is merely an operational item which enables the Great Lakes Institute to carry on a certain amount of logistic supply and maintain a number of small boats

and Handivans and other mobile equipment, such as the rather large ship, the ex-Navy Port Dauphin which is serviced, and the various cutters and smaller ships which are involved. All of these vessels are financed from other sources.

The work of the Great Lakes Institute under Dr. Misener has been formalized over the years. It is now the central operation, allowing for the overhead to be taken care of so that a great number of separately financed projects can be undertaken. A directory of projects forecast from 1971 and 1972 is published by the Canadian committee on oceanography, which is a federal body and this gives us a fairly good idea of what is happening. I have had a look at this document, and there is some rather interesting information in it.

In discussing the estimates of The Department of Energy and Resources Management, between different projects, regardless of who is funding them, there is very little co-ordination. For example, we find that there are fish surveys going on in relation to water temperatures, and at the same time there are quite separate surveys going on in regard to the physics of the plumes of warm water that will be coming from both conventional and nuclear power stations.

In particular there is an important study which has been going on for four or five years regarding fish habits off Douglas Point. Now we have a base line by which we can discover the effect of the plumes of warm water that are going to emerge from the Douglas Point nuclear reactor to begin with, and of course, later from the Bruce generating station. So here we have a development which is of importance for other power stations.

But when we come to look at the total number of projects that have been authorized by all different levels of government, we discover to our astonishment that there is no base line for wildlife and for the ecology of the waters in other areas where power stations have been planned. Sometimes we will find a small project that has been authorized.

For example, in 1971 we have a project forecast for a Dr. R. A. Hurley to monitor eutrophication in the Bay of Quinte to seek possible causes of failure in local fisheries. Water temperature profiles are taken, and water samples are collected from successive depths at several stations along the bay throughout the year. The samples are analysed and then there is a series of the scientific proposals that this analysis will bring

forth. Comparisons are made between sampling stations. In between years, data collected in 1964 surveys serves as references.

From this Glenora fishing station in the Bay of Quinte, under The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests research branch, we could extract data that will be useful to the department in determining the design of the outflow from the Bath—or if you like the Lennox—generating station, which will be, I understand, an oil-fired generating station.

But there seems to be no evidence of co-ordination between The Department of Lands and Forests and The Department of Energy and Resources Management in making this information available. There should be some formal sponsorship between Lands and Forests and Energy and Resources on these projects.

On the other hand, the work that Mr. K. H. Loftus is doing for The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests in Lake Erie on the thermal generator site in Nanticoke is obviously designed to be of use to the Ontario Hydro Commission, which is one of the principal co-operating agencies here. The Lake Erie project will monitor seasonal and year-to-year changes in the quality and quantity of zooplankton in the neighbourhood, to obtain a background against which to measure possible future changes and so on.

In fact, Ontario Hydro personnel are taking samples and the OWRC is co-operating by analysing the water. Some sampling of fish is also carried out by the personnel from The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests fisheries research station at Wheatley, so we have got complete co-ordination here, but this is not apparently happening at Bath and at other locations.

Project 8 is a major study on Lake Ontario as a thermal machine, yet we see that the people who ought to be involved, particularly the proponents of the Lake Ontario airport, do not seem to be involved in this. Nor are they involved in the storm surge studies of Lake Ontario, which are absolutely vital to determine how practical a floating airdrome would be in the water.

Project 16 is a thermal plume dispersal project at Douglas Point, Lake Huron, which is being undertaken by the University of Waterloo, and the principal co-operating agency is the Atomic Energy Commission of Canada. Apparently, Ontario Hydro is not involved in this.

This is under the wing of scientist Dr. G. E. Canady of Waterloo, and is one of the key

proposals for the year 1971 so far as these estimates are concerned. The aim is to determine the background area of what is called an identifiable plume, defined as that body of water in front of the cooling water outlet of a power station rejecting waste heat to the Great Lakes, which is warmer than the surroundings by more than 0.5 degrees centigrade. Also of interest is the ratio of heat fluxes from the identifiable plume to the atmosphere and to the cooler lake mass. We heard last year that the temperature of the earth has increased half a degree in the last 10 years, and these make these nuclear or thermal studies especially important.

Measurements at Douglas Point during 1970 have shown a very shallow plume, about one metre deep, in contrast with other known thermal plumes around the Great Lakes. The reasons for this difference are sought and then there is going to be a major mathematical analysis finding out why the water is behaving in the way it does.

The point I want to make, Mr. Chairman, is that this is not apparently being related to the fish studies which are going on around Douglas Point. Surely what is being undertaken and studied in these two particular studies should be synthesized and put together. This is covered in project 62, fish populations, Douglas Point, Lake Huron, agency of the Great Lakes Institute. The principal co-operating agency is again The Department of Lands and Forests. No co-operation is being shown from The Ontario Department of Energy and Resources Management.

In this project we have to ask why, Mr. Chairman, is Atomic Energy of Canada not a sponsoring agency of it? Why is The Ontario Department of Energy and Resources Management not a sponsor of this particular work? This is being done entirely by The Department of Lands and Forests, which has been doing the same thing with Dr. F. E. J. Pry as a leader of this particular project, and yet we seem to have no co-operation between Lands and Forests and Energy and Resources Management.

No doubt material is exchanged, but it is certainly done on an informal basis if that is the case. What I am saying is that Energy and Resources Management has not put any money where its mouth is, insofar as the study of thermal pollution and the effect on the ecology of the region are concerned.

I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that it is only where we have forced the issue, as in the

case of mercury contamination, that the principal co-operating agencies have come together, I am thinking now of project 77 in the book—that of mercury contamination—the location, the OWRC laboratory in Toronto; the agency, the Ontario Water Resources Commission; the principal co-operating agency, The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests.

Fish collected by fisheries personnel of The Department of Lands and Forests are submitted to the OWRC for analysis, to provide an indication of the distribution and magnitude of mercury contamination in fish. Intensive fish sampling is being carried out where industrial mercury discharges have occurred in the past to afford a statistically valid analysis of potential changes associated with a passage of time or remedial efforts. It is the work of the three sciences that are involved. Now, I say here, Mr. Chairman, that this is something that concerns us greatly. There has been a great deal of contradiction and confusion in regard to mercury pollution in particular. The three departments, Health, Lands and Forests, and Energy and Resources Management have all been involved in the mercury problems; and we have had conflicting statements and conflicting reports coming from these three ministries.

The other day in the House, the Minister of Lands and Forests rose in his place and said that he did not really consider mercury pollution a serious problem any more and that perhaps it had been exaggerated. The Lands and Forests people have taken down their "Fish for Fun" signs that they put up in various areas in the province, and yet The Department of Health has not yet lowered its one part per million of mercury standard or changed its mind in any way in this regard.

The Minister of Energy and Resources Management chose not to mention this in his remarks. We would certainly like to know what the minister's stand is on this. The problem with this kind of pollution, particularly in northwestern Ontario, is the lack of clear, concise knowledge and thinking that is coming from the government. One day we are told one thing, the next day we are told another.

If we knew either that the problem were serious, the lakes cannot be fished, the fish cannot be eaten, then we would know; but we get one thing from The Department of Lands and Forests, another thing from The Department of Health and another thing from this minister's department.

I hope that, before these estimates are over, the minister will indicate once and for all just how serious mercury pollution is; whether the fish containing more than 0.5 parts per million should be eaten or not and just exactly what the government's programme is in this regard.

The other area, of course, in which co-operation has been forced between the various departments is in the thermal pollution studies which have been tied in with radiation protection. We pressed for this and apparently something is going forward in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, in concluding these particular remarks—and I will have more to say about this later—I would like to ask the minister how we can use the Great Lakes Institute at the University of Toronto, not just as an agency for pretending that the government is seriously interested in water pollution, but rather as a main co-ordinating agency for different levels of government. It is obviously handy to the government; it is working very closely with the Canada Centre for Inland Waters at Burlington, which seems to be being used much more sensibly by the federal government.

I am really astonished to discover that the relationship of the Great Lakes Institute and The Ontario Department of Energy and Resources Management is at loose ends as it is, and that many projects are being funded by other agencies of the Ontario government, apparently without the knowledge of The Department of Energy and Resources Management, and certainly without the collateral sponsorship of this department and I say to the minister that this is not good enough. The minister said in his opening remarks that all these agencies had been co-ordinated under his department, but I think it is obvious that there is a great deal going on in the province, in regard to pollution in its many forms, that this department and the minister are not aware of.

I mentioned earlier in my remarks about an airport in Lake Ontario. We are worrying about the death of Lake Erie. We are worried about how we should best remove the mercury from the bottom of Lake St. Clair without sending it all the way down the St. Lawrence system. We are worried about thermal emissions from nuclear and conventional power stations, and particularly if those power stations become the focus of larger-scale industrial developments with all the heat and other pollution problems which will then emerge in those areas.

All these things, Mr. Chairman, we are worried about, yet we do not seem to have any single co-ordinating agency being made use of to the best possible advantage; and here right on our doorstep, on Harbord Street, we have the Great Lakes Institute, to which we are giving a token \$100,000 a year to run a couple of Handivans and three or four small boats and to enable simple communication between the Harbord Street office and the ship Port Dauphin and other boats which, of course, are maintained from other sources.

It seems to me that this is an insult to the Great Lakes Institute. We ought to be working with them at a different level than this. We ought to be proud of the work that the Great Lakes Institute has done, and while we recognize that the salaries of the staff and the independence of the staff must always be related to the University of Toronto, yet surely we can develop a relationship on a different level, particularly since we are going to want all this expertise to come to our assistance and particularly since we shall want the results of this experimentation to be circulated on a much wider basis than heretofore.

We can no longer afford, Mr. Chairman, to allow knowledge to stay in isolated pockets, and I see the Great Lakes Institute in the future as being one of the great clearing houses on information on water pollution and thermal pollution. I think we should make much more use of it than we are doing at present and I think that the \$100,000 grant, while we commend it wholeheartedly, is only a drop in the bucket.

I have a few more short remarks, Mr. Chairman—and then we are going to get in on the individual debate—on the five per cent rebate, the sales tax that was to be rebated to those industries that put in pollution equipment in the last year. We will get into the number of loans that were made for small companies to put in pollution equipment. But I would like to suggest to the minister and to the government in general, that they come up with a programme to rebate five per cent to any company that puts in new machinery within the next year.

I suggest that if the government had really used its head in this regard then they could have given a great stimulus to the pollution abatement control industry and to research in pollution problems in the Province of Ontario.

I suggested in my remarks last year that one of the coming industries, or the industry

with the greatest growth potential within the next 10 or 20 years, will be the pollution control industry. The government has handed the people of Ontario a \$450 million deficit, a great amount of which, it says, is going to be used to stimulate the economy.

The government, I am sure, is aware that between an investment decision and the actual installation of equipment as the result of that investment decision, the time lag is at least a year. I would suggest to the minister, for his consideration, that the government could have given a great stimulus to pollution control in this province if it had taken that money, or the money that it feels will be lost through decreased revenues, and used it to combat pollution across the province, on all fronts, in a much stronger way than the minister has indicated it is going to do.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Fort Frances!

Mr. T. P. Reid: What was that about Fort Frances?

I would like to touch briefly on two other topics. One is the condition of the Rainy River in my riding and the sorry state it is in. I am going to have some rather pointed questions to ask the minister in this regard and in regard to the BOD load in that river and the phenol count in that river. Perhaps we can get into that on the particular vote.

I would like to say something about Ontario Hydro. I would not want to see the chairman who was here, or is here, left out of any of my remarks. It has to do with the proposed export of power from Fort Frances, Ontario, to International Falls, Minnesota. I am sure the minister is well aware of this export of power and has, indeed, been involved in it.

Boise Cascade, which wholly owns the Ontario-Minnesota Pulp and Paper Company, applied almost a year ago to the Ontario government for an increase in the export of power. The Ontario Department of Energy and Resources Management, the Ontario government and the Ontario Hydro without, I believe, full knowledge of the fact, agreed to such an export of hydro. Boise Cascade was asking for an increase of from 14,000 kilowatt hours to some 37,000 kilowatt hours. An order-in-council was granted last May or June giving approval to this export of power. The municipality of Fort Frances was not, to my knowledge, consulted on this matter, nor was I, as a local member.

I would like to suggest that this approval was given because of a deal that the then Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Randall) had made with the Boise Cascade. I think the philosophy of the ex-minister is well known in regard to economic development. He is willing to sell the rest of the country as long as he can point to something and say, "There, I created two jobs." What he gave away in getting those two jobs did not seem to concern him.

Much to the surprise of Boise Cascade and to the Ontario government, the town of Fort Frances put up a spirited fight against the export of power. The town, a small community of 10,000 people, was joined in its opposition by the mill council, which is all the unions in the local paper mill, the local Chamber of Commerce, and other organizations and groups in the community and, indeed, all of northwestern Ontario.

The hearings ran for approximately three or four days last November and for four days in the month past. I attended, particularly, the first day of those hearings last November and I was quite surprised to hear the counsel for the company rise in his place and say that he was there with the support of the Ontario government and Ontario Hydro in this application for power. Neither the lawyer for the government, nor for Ontario Hydro, rose and said this was not so.

I had asked the Minister of Energy and Resources Management previously what stand the Ontario government intended to take on this export of hydro. This was only some 10 or 12 days before the hearings began before the National Energy Board. The minister indicated at that time that the government had not made up its mind, but the indication that I got from his remarks was that the government would probably remain neutral. This all took place after the government had already signed an order-in-council giving approval for the export of power.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, the government does not give approval.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Unfortunately, I do not have that order-in-council with me but—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The government does not give approval to export power, strictly. It is a matter of agreement between the two companies.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right. You gave approval to the agreement between Ontario Hydro and—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is based on the approval of the National Energy Board.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is based on the approval but there was no qualification, as I recall, in that order-in-council as to what that energy was to be used for. We have found out at the hearings of the National Energy Board in Fort Frances what that power we are exporting is to be used for. It is being used, in one sense, whereby the company, Boise Cascade, buys the power from Hydro, exports it to International Falls and puts it through its grid. Then it goes through a grid that is owned and operated by the Rainy River Development Company which is owned by Boise Cascade, and then sold at an increased price to the community of International Falls, Minnesota.

That is one of the uses. The second use is that the company contended that it needed the power for normal expansion of its plant. In other words, every year it puts in more light bulbs, or puts in heavier machinery at the existing plant so it needed more power year by year.

Under cross-examination during the National Energy Board hearings we heard that, in effect, as soon as the company can take the extra 1,000 kilowatt hours, they do so. In other words, if they are entitled, as they were, to 1,000 kilowatt hours increase per year as of January 1 of that new year, they took the whole load, 1,000 kilowatt hours. What they did when they got that load was to cut back on their own generation of power.

The whole point is that obviously Ontario Hydro has been selling power to the company across the line much cheaper than the company can supply it itself. I asked the minister in the House today, and I will ask him again and we can get into it later on perhaps, just how Ontario Hydro arrives at the cost per kilowatt hours. By statute, Ontario Hydro is supposed to supply municipalities with power at cost, but after hearing the testimony of Hydro officials at that hearing, I am just a little confused as to what criterion Ontario Hydro actually uses to arrive at cost, and particularly cost when that power is exported.

I hope the minister will also be able to answer the question as to whether or not those people in the United States who receive an export of power are going to share in the general benefits of the rate stabilization fund. The minister has indicated, and the chairman of Ontario Hydro has indicated, that rates have increased seven and eight per

cent but they have been kept down from the actual 15 per cent rise by means of taking funds from \$45 million of the rate stabilization fund.

My question to the minister is: In our export of power to United States people, are they sharing in that general benefit? If so, I suggest to him that they should not be. They should be paying the full 15 per cent increase in costs and not be given the advantage of the surplus from the rate stabilization fund. They neither pay taxes nor are citizens or residents of Ontario. I do not think, Mr. Chairman, that they should be entitled to that eight per cent if this is the case.

I suggest—again we will get into this—I think it is time that we had a careful examination of what basis and what policy Ontario Hydro operates on when it exports power. In the case of Fort Frances, the company on the American side has indicated that it wants the increase in power so that it can build a new stud mill and veneer plant on the American side.

Under questioning, the president of that company said that there was no reason why that mill, the stud mill in particular, could not be built on the Canadian side at Fort Frances or somewhere in the Rainy River district. He admitted that they had timber limits in Ontario, in the Rainy River and the Kenora district, that could well supply the wood for a stud mill. If we go ahead with this power export, we are going to give them a comparative advantage in cheap power to run that mill on the American side.

I think it is high time that Hydro and the minister took a long look at just what they are doing with these exports of power. If the situation is that we are exporting jobs and employment opportunities with that power, I say to you, regardless of how much profit the minister thinks we are making on this export, in the long run and even in the short run, we are the losers in this business. I hope that the minister will take the time to get the transcript of the Energy Board hearings in Fort Frances and read the testimony particularly of Ontario Hydro, in this regard. I think he would find it edifying and it might cause him to change some of his opinions as to the export of power south of the border.

Mr. Chairman, those are all the opening remarks I have for the moment, but we will get into the various problems under the separate votes.

Mr. Chairman: The next speaker will be Mr. Burr, from the NDP.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, first I should like to say how glad I was to welcome the minister to Windsor a couple of weeks ago when he paid us a visit to address Windsor's Pollution Probe. I was sorry that the afternoon and evening on that occasion were one on which the sky was clear and bright and blue and apparently pure because I was hoping that he would see Windsor's problem first-hand. I was hoping the sky would be as it was on the previous occasion when the minister was going to visit Windsor to open the API and was not able to get out of Toronto. Then the sky was dull and grey and as dirty as it ever is here in Toronto.

In leading off, Mr. Chairman, I wish to ask a question of the minister, one of the many I have been waiting to ask during the daily question period this session. It is this: What response has the minister had to his undertaking on June 1, 1970, on Hansard page 3403, to make known both to Ottawa and to the United Nations his views on the desirability of an ecological advisory council at the national and international levels?

I keep coming back to this subject, Mr. Chairman, because I believe it is absolutely essential to the successful fight against pollution. My idea of an ecological advisory council is obviously not the same as was indicated in the minister's opening remarks, if he expects it merely to investigate and report on potential new pollution hazards. My idea of an ecological advisory council is one that would provide us with some generalissimo, some strategic command headquarters; without this, no war on pollution has any hope of success. We must have an integrated plan instead of the stop-and-patch type of campaign that we are running at present. When I say "we," I mean mankind, society, all the governments of all the countries. I stated before that the protection and preservation of our environment is too important for any politicians to spend very much time in partisan attacks.

Recently I visited the OWRC labs near Highway 401 and Islington and I was impressed by the great amount of work being done there by various individuals, most of whom were doing very specialized jobs. They are some of the soldiers in the very small army we have as yet mobilized in our war to save the environment.

One of the techniques of interest to everyone actively interested in ecology is that of composting garbage and recycling municipal sewage into organic humus and fertilizer. As

far as I am aware, there is no ecological objection to this. Why then is it not widely practised in the industrial nations which are rapidly running out of space to dispose of this garbage? If there are economic reasons, it is up to this government to solve them, even if society must provide subsidies. If it is a matter of public education, then the government should initiate the necessary change of attitude.

The American Paper Institute says that the percentage of paper recycled is falling and will continue to fall until—I quote—"strong financial motivations are present at every point in the reclaiming system." There are indications that the steel and glass container industries have similar attitudes toward recycling of their products.

Let us return to the subject of garbage disposal. There are certain costs involved in recycling garbage by the composting method. Perhaps they are greater than the cost of disposing of it otherwise—I do not know—but this is where an ecological advisory council would come in, because they would have a very wide view of the problem, perhaps even a global view; they would point out the costs of not recycling. That is where we seem to go astray.

For example, by returning the organic material from the composted garbage to the farmland, we could reduce or stop the use of chemical fertilizers. By reducing or stopping the use of synthetic chemical fertilizers, we could reduce the amount of electricity required in their production, and therefore the amount of pollution resulting from the production of electricity. Many claim that we would also make plants less susceptible to insect damage. If this is true, we would need fewer insecticides, again reducing the amount of electricity required, thus reducing pollution from electrical generating stations.

With the reduction of chemical fertilizers, the soil would not erode so easily because of the extra humus from the composted garbage, the soil would have more earthworms and more water. Most important of all, according to many people, the resulting food would be more nutritious and the health of the population would be better, thus reducing the costs of both training physicians and nurses and of building and operating hospitals.

I realize, Mr. Chairman, perhaps the previous sentence contains conclusions that are controversial and that most government nutritionists seem to live very amiably with the public relations representatives of the food industry. Incidentally, I hope this whole field of nutrition would be one to which the eco-

logical advisory council would give careful scrutiny.

I have gone into some detail, using composting of garbage as one example of recycling which would affect many fields. The point I have tried to make is that we need to have independent ecologists taking what we may call a mountain-top view of the whole environmental problem; otherwise numerous persons with vested interests large and small will sabotage all our war efforts.

In the example I have used, let me follow the line of thought I outlined, but not this time from the point of view of the ecological benefits resulting from the composting of garbage. I am talking of composting on a massive scale, of course; perhaps continent-wide. These ecological benefits would be offset by economic losses or difficulties. For example, fertilizer companies, suppliers of fuel to electric power plants, and insecticide manufacturers would lose business; some employees would lose their jobs; political pressures would be put on the government to abandon or at least dilute its ecological policies and programmes. We would, in short, have a conflict between ecology and economics, between private vested interests and the public welfare. What do we do about that?

First, Mr. Chairman, we have to do a little thinking about something that many people are mentioning by different words, such as "affluence," "GNP," "high standard of living," "modern civilization" and "progress." There may be other words, but all are being used less and less. More and more we hear the phrase "quality of life." Even the temporary Treasurer of Ontario uses that phrase quite frequently.

Let us think about it for a few minutes. Let us start with the GNP—the gross national product—which consists of two things, goods and services. If Canada produces in one year \$70 billion worth of goods and \$10 billion worth of services, the GNP is \$80 billion. Likewise, \$10 billion in goods and \$70 billion in services would give us \$80 billion, the measure of our wealth for one year.

Since almost all modern production of goods causes pollution and since there is every indication that the world population will increase and with it an ever-increasing demand in every country for a greater GNP, it seems that more and more pollution is in store for us if the goods part of the GNP continues to increase. If all countries are to succeed in keeping pollution from increasing and actually decreasing it, while at the same time maintaining a high standard of living for their people, then it seems to me that it

can only be done by putting far greater emphasis on services and far less on goods, those material things the advertising geniuses brainwash us into desiring and buying.

During World War II, Canada was able to relieve over one million citizens of the task of producing goods and persuaded them to perform a service, that of defending our freedom and preserving the quality of our life. The rest of us worked longer hours in order to keep the supply of goods from falling too low and reduced our demand for goods, for such items as gasoline and such things as sugar, tea and meat.

Now if we in Canada, and in other countries too, were serious about the war on pollution, we would be conscripting every person with any degree of engineering and related scientific training to work at finding ways and means of preventing air pollution, of recycling industrial waste so that it would no longer be dumped openly or surreptitiously into our water courses, we would be putting every biologist on a crash programme to develop biological controls for the agricultural pests that have given the insecticide manufacturers an excuse to pour millions upon millions of pounds of toxic chemicals into our environment every year.

We would be putting enough of our brightest social and economic experts to work planning re-employment for those workers whose jobs have to be eliminated in the interest of a cleaner environment.

We would be putting our best agricultural, nutritional and medical researchers to work to make sure that new strains or varieties of vegetables, grains and fruits are, in fact, superior to the old, not merely or necessarily in quantity, but in quality, in nutritional value.

Incidentally, Mr. Chairman, I read just this morning, I think it was, about some new variety of potato that had to be culled out of production because it had some poisonous ingredient, and this particular variety which had many good qualities was found to be harmful from a nutritional point of view.

We would be recruiting other independent scientists and persons with specialized experience in food processing to determine how food can be packaged, distributed and preserved adequately without the addition of chemicals, many of which are harmful to human beings.

We would be putting others to work finding out exactly to what extent different ways of preparing food in the kitchen destroys the

vitamin content and value for those who consume it.

We would be recruiting into the service of the public those advertising geniuses who now cannot look at themselves in the mirror sometimes because of the ideas they are paid to foist upon the public. We would give them creative work that they could enjoy, informing the public of all the ways in which they could help to maintain the cleaner environment, and how they could help to ensure that their children receive healthful diets—to distinguish between empty calorie foods and those that contained plentiful supplies of all the vitamins as well as adequate amounts of protein.

In short, informing the public how they could take advantage of all the discoveries and developments of all the other scientists who had been recruited on a crash basis to win the war to end pollution and to establish and perpetuate a high quality of life for future generations.

Now if we did this, Mr. Chairman, we would indeed be making a great contribution to society. But to do this we must have some kind of independent brain trust capable of planning and dedicated to planning an all-out, no-nonsense war on pollution. We simply cannot have a few scattered rookie corporals improvising and temporizing and carrying on an ineffectual sniping campaign against the ubiquitous enemy, unbridled pollution. A few dedicated privates and a handful of bewildered corporals are not enough. We need a master plan, formed and implemented by experts, an ecological advisory council, and we need a large army of trained personnel.

Nations always support their governments in a just war. Canadians would support a genuine all-out war to save the environment. If the Canadian government so far has not seen fit to declare this war, if it is up to Ontario to act as Canada's conscience in this matter, let us do so; let us start an ecological advisory council in Ontario; let us set the example and others will be forced to follow.

During the Throne debate back in April I put on the record a study that showed conclusively that many of the so-called minor ailments so many people suffer disappeared when they breathe pure air during their sleeping hours instead of the ordinary polluted urban air. You will probably not recall, Mr. Chairman, but 72 per cent showed varying degrees of improvement. In the 28 per cent for which there was no discernible improvement it is logical to conclude that, in them

at least, 16 hours of breathing polluted air could be offset by eight hours of pure air.

The doctor who is now the head of the epidemiology division of the School of Public Health at the University of California at Berkeley conducted a 10-year study in Buffalo, New York, from which he learned that twice as many people in the 50-to-69-year age group died in heavily polluted parts of that city as in the parts where the air was cleanest.

I know of some other doctors in Buffalo who have conducted a similar study on emphysema and asthma. The number of hospitalized asthma patients in the badly polluted areas is two or three times that in the cleaner areas. The same applies to those who are hospitalized even for things like eczema.

This doctor says: "No matter how much money we spend building new hospitals and clinics, and training additional doctors and nurses, we will never improve public health as long as the environment is polluted." This should be obvious to everyone, of course, but our society does not yet show signs of recognizing the truth of it. We hear more talk of building hospitals and training health personnel than we do about an all-out crash programme to end the air pollution.

Consider the five-year programme at Falconbridge, Mr. Chairman. This programme apparently cannot be implemented in less than five years. Canada fought World War II, creating countless warships, airplanes, tanks, trucks, jeeps, artillery, machine-guns, rifles, bombs, and all the other weaponry of war as well as mobilizing the nation to feed, clothe and shelter the millions of citizens on active service. All this in the same time that it will take Falconbridge to install anti-pollution equipment.

Mr. Chairman, this is not reasonable.

I have two letters I should like to read from mothers in LaSalle which is on the Ontario side of the Detroit River opposite and east of the notorious Zug Island Ecorse industrial complex which has carried on undeclared chemical warfare against the people of Windsor district for many years.

Dear Sir:

It seems that the only time I am happy with so much air pollution in Windsor is when I am far from home.

We spent our March winter vacation in Florida. On returning home the children and I noticed how difficult it is to breathe here. After laryngitis and a cold, I thought of the time when we lived in northern Ontario from 1960 to 1964. Each time we

came here to visit our relatives we had headaches, colds and nausea. At that time I did not know what made us so sick. Now I know. My husband's work has brought us to live in Windsor.

I have decided to fight pollution. In April, 1970, we formed a Pollution Probe group at the University of Windsor. A group of ladies picketed Great Lakes Steel in Detroit. We also had petitions with 4,000 signatures demanding that something be done about air and water pollution. We sent copies to the United Nations, the United States President and our own Prime Minister. Only the United Nations acknowledged our efforts—talk about apathy!

I attended the IJC open hearings in Detroit last month. I listened as university students complained how, after coming to Windsor, asthma, emphysema and respiratory diseases plagued them. They looked forward to the end of the school term so that they could leave this filthy, polluted city.

We had better use some of this money, now spent on hearings, getting something done.

Most of us know who the polluters are; our eyes and ears are all we need, not costly commissions.

I advocate peaceful methods to accomplish what I believe is my right—clean air and water. Maybe violence is all the government understands. I wonder what it will take to enforce the laws.

Mr. Burr, because you live here in Windsor and understand our problem please try to get some action.

Sincerely,
S.M.

The other letter, April 21, 1971:

Dear Sir:

We had planned a vacation to Florida for some time—at least our dream came true. But two of our three children had very bad bronchitis and we thought of cancelling our trip. However, our doctor told us to go as the sunshine and clean air should help clear up the problem, rather than hinder it.

When we arrived in Key Largo, Florida, my children's chests cleared up after four days and no wonder! The sky was clear and bright. The air was fresh and clean—even the stars shone brighter at night.

We could not help but notice that the white sun-umbrellas remained white. The

houses were not covered with black soot and fly ash, as here in Windsor. The children ate better, played outside for endless hours and slept well at night.

As we travelled homeward the old problem of bronchitis returned. Our 10-year-old daughter, who had been lying down asleep, was so bad she had to sit up several times in our car, gasping for air. She lost her voice and complained of severe headache. Once again we found ourselves back into the cough syrup-aspirin routine to give very temporary relief for our children.

One month later the problem is still with us. Our children do not like to play outdoors due to the foul air. Because of the lack of outdoors activity they end up with colds, summer and winter.

We love Canada, but we and others I know are seriously considering leaving this country and moving to cleaner air. The only thing that keeps us here is that my husband is a businessman in Windsor and it makes it a bit more difficult to move at the present time.

I hope, sir, that you will continue to blast at our leaders and tell them it is essential that we have clean air and water if we are to survive. We should live, not exist.

Yours truly,
J.M.

I realize, Mr. Chairman, that the minister has not yet been able to reach an agreement with the Michigan state or the Wayne county officials to co-operate in reducing operations during the worst periods of pollution.

I have read these two letters to bring to the minister's attention, once again, the urgency and seriousness of this problem in the Windsor area. Both mothers would leave the area, as would many others, if their husband's livelihoods did not require that they live in the vicinity of Windsor.

Meanwhile, each is doing all an individual citizen can do to promote the cleaning up of the environment for the sake of her children's health. They were both active in founding Pollution Probe in Windsor and district. Both have made trips to Michigan to present their cases, on one occasion picketing Great Lakes Steel.

If the governments of Michigan and Ontario had matched their concern and their efforts, Windsorites would now be breathing cleaner air today and would, as a consequence, be much healthier.

On that note, Mr. Chairman, I conclude my opening remarks.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I would like to deal very briefly with some of the points that were raised by the speakers for the opposition parties.

The hon. member for Rainy River mentioned, as did the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside, the question of an environmental council or some such body. I believe the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside mentioned an ecological advisory council. They suggested that it should be an independent body, and I think he wanted to know whether or not we would just deal with existing pollution problems.

My idea of this council would be made up of people from all walks of life, but mainly from the ecological milieu, if you want to use that phrase. Many of them would be from universities, as well as scientists in the field, either with industry or government, and other people who could be considered independent and knowledgeable in all matters of the environment.

One of the things that concerned me, when we discovered the situation regarding mercury, was the lack of knowledge that we apparently had on this continent; the lack of co-operation between various countries, between various governments, even between various scientists in different parts of the world.

We hear about Sweden and the fact that although Sweden experienced a situation back in 1965 or 1966, the result of those findings regarding the effect of mercury in that country was never published in any type of report in the English language. If we have an environmental council, it should be concerned with all aspects, including the environmental effect of certain organic chemicals or synthetics or substitutes that are being used on the market, co-ordinating all types of research all over the globe into some form of a library within that council in relating the present situation to past experiences as well as keeping an eye to the future.

For example, if some chemical company or some manufacturer comes out with a certain product that is claimed to do certain things—whether it will restore hair or change the colour of water in a private pool or something—I would want that council to consider the effect of any such substance on the environment, as well as some organization like the Food and Drug Directorate.

Of course, the continued use of pesticides and insecticides would be the concern of such a council. I appreciate the desire and objectives of the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside in saying that this should be on a world-wide basis; that it should be set up, say, possibly by the United Nations which in turn could investigate and report on potential new pollution hazards as well, as the hon. member indicated, as taking a mountain-top view or an overview of the whole effect of man on ecology or on the environment—or man's activities, I should say, on the environment.

The hon. member suggested that we needed some sort of a generalissimo to integrate a programme like this on a world-wide basis, and then he said I only had two stripes, which was rather unfair because I had been promoted to a sergeant-major.

In any event, Mr. Chairman, I do not think we should simplify or oversimplify this whole problem. This is the idea. This should be our final objective, and it should be done as soon as possible. It should be the objective of all those in government or in a position to do something about environmental control. But we should not forget that it will take the decision and the allocation of funds of many governments and many jurisdictions, to carry out a successful war. We have got to get rid of a lot of constitutional and jurisdictional hangups. We have got to stop worrying about sovereignty between states and our own little sphere of influence.

I think the Great Lakes basin is a good example of it. We had a Great Lakes environmental conference in Toronto last September and, in spite of what the hon. member for Rainy River says, it was a roaring success.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Socially, yes. We will not argue that.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Lots of booze, before and after.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Bang that gavel, Mr. Chairman.

An hon. member: You woke them up with that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But if it did nothing else, it got representatives of eight states and three provinces together in one building for two days. We compared a lot of notes, we learned a lot about each other's programmes and above all, as far as I am concerned, it indicated to me really the tough job we have

ahead to get any type of consensus or unanimous opinion from the representatives of all those various jurisdictions.

Since that conference in September, we have had three ad hoc committee meetings that were set up as a result of that conference. I might mention, in respect to Governor Milliken, it was indicated at the September conference that the next conference would be in Michigan. At that conference in September, the governor, who was happily re-elected in November, invited us—

Mr. T. P. Reid: He must be a Democrat.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —to Ann Arbor or Detroit or some nice place in Michigan in the spring of the year, so it was really the second phase of this whole operation.

Mr. Burr: Has a date been set for that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, not yet. We are hoping to get a date and we are hoping that it will be, as I indicated in my statement, either late spring or early summer.

But the point I am trying to get across is that we should not try to oversimplify this problem. Although it would be great to have this world-wide ecological council with this generalissimo, believe me he would have a great deal of trouble getting a uniform programme even in one country, let alone one continent or on a world-wide basis. We still have to sort of drag some areas, kicking and screaming, into an environmental consciousness that will result in proper legislation and the proper allocation of funds to do a proper job.

As I say, the Great Lakes basin is an example of this. I am not going to try to mention any states here, but there are two or three states really that just have not got any intention of doing over the next 10 years what Ontario is doing now.

Mr. Burr: We have to show them an example and shame them into it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, that is what we are attempting to do. I mean, if we are going to spend \$40 million on nutrient removal on the Great Lakes basin in our sewage treatment plants, let us hope they get the message. Otherwise, it is going to be a costly programme that will not have the total effect that really we must get in an international waterway.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Can you not get the federal government to participate, the United States federal government particularly?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There was an announcement. They are apparently more jealous of their jurisdictional areas of constitutional responsibility than we are. I was just going to say that at some of these committee meetings, we have always had representatives of the US federal government as observers and they were always quick to point out in certain aspects of pollution control that this was not within the state's authority to do such and such a thing, so this is what concerned me.

President Nixon mentioned sometime within the last eight or nine months a \$35 billion programme for sewage treatment facilities in the eastern United States. I think most of it probably is going to the Great Lakes basin, but according to representatives from the states they have not seen a dollar of this yet. This type of thing—

Mr. T. P. Reid: That sounds like government by headlines.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, it does.

Mr. Ruston: Ontario Housing!

Mr. T. P. Reid: You guys are just pikers compared to Nixon.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: On the one rather important point that you both raised, I was trying to indicate that certainly the ideal objective of even a national environmental council in covering all of Canada would be a big help. I am hoping that next year's conference at Stockholm, which is being chaired by a Canadian, will result in some type of international input or recommendation and possibly the setting up of an ecological council, as has been suggested.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Will members of the opposition be invited to accompany the minister on that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand as observers, yes.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I have been there, so I could show the minister some Swedish problems.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand most of that has been censored now.

As to the Great Lakes Institute, I agree with the hon. member for Rainy River that this is an important organization in the field of water pollution research. However, you must remember, Mr. Chairman, that this is an institute that is associated with the University of Toronto. It gets its funds from that university for the most part, but part is

supplied, of course, by the Province of Ontario over and above the \$100,000 which is in our budget.

There is no disagreement that there should be more co-ordination; that is one of the reasons for the reorganization of the department. However, I question whether the establishment or the appointment of the Great Lakes Institute as the main co-ordinating agency for research in the province would be a good thing. This may inhibit the Great Lakes Institute, because it does work, as I mentioned, with the federal government.

This past summer it was working with the Inland Waters Centre in Burlington, which, as the hon. member knows, is the main federal research centre as far as water is concerned in Canada. OWRC has also been funding, I believe, the Great Lakes Institute and this is separate and apart from the \$100,000. Lands and Forests is very active in research and as the annual report of the Great Lakes Institute indicates, they are working with Lands and Forests.

So as far as the nuclear research—the result of the effect of nuclear power development on fish—Lands and Forests, OWRC and Ontario Hydro are all involved in studies and research in respect to fish life, near the plant at Douglas Point, for example. This will also be undertaken at Pickering; it is starting now. The main fish culture study and the effect of thermal pollution on fish is being undertaken by Lands and Forests and Hydro at Lennox and Nanticoke. So there is a substantial amount of research on the effect of thermal and nuclear power installations on fish life generally.

I do not want to read this letter, but this is from Dr. Misener, Mr. Chairman, the director.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right, I will not. Do the members want me to get into the export of power at Fort Frances?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Why not? Well, we can come to that under vote 501.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right, we will deal with it under 501. The hearings are concluded, I believe, and I want to say that the member indicated, it seemed to me, that it was a surprise to the town council of Fort Frances that an agreement was to be made between Ontario Hydro and Ontario-Minnesota in respect to the export of power by Ontario-Minnesota to its affiliate at International Falls. But the fact is that that was known

about a year ago by the town of Fort Frances when members of its council and its legal counsel attended a meeting here in Toronto.

Mr. T. P. Reid: If I might, I would just like to correct the minister. I did not say it was a surprise to them; I said it was a surprise to me, after I thought the minister had indicated in the Legislature that he did not know what stand the government was going to take on it. We had the feeling—I certainly had the feeling at least—that the Ontario government was going to be neutral and appear only as objective observers and objective witnesses. Instead the counsel for the company rose and said that he was there with the support of the government.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I apologize if I misled the hon. member in reply to his question last fall, but this in fact was the position of the Ontario government. There was an order-in-council approving the agreement, subject to NEB—and that agreement, of course, contained all the conditions and reservations as to licence approvals dealing with the export.

Subsequent to that, there was intervention filed by the Ontario government at the hearing, and as was clarified in a recent letter to the chairman of the National Energy Board, we indicated no objection to the export of power. But in fact, we were not necessarily supporting it or against it, or anything like that; this was up to the National Energy Board, based on the effect of the export of power and what effect it might have on Fort Frances and to the northwestern Ontario area.

I might mention that was the same stand this government took in 1961, and the same stand it took in 1962. At that time, as the hon. member may know, there was an application by the company for a 10-year licence, and as a result I feel, of the Ontario government's indication of concern as far as jobs were concerned in the Fort Frances area, a licence was issued for one year only. Then there was another hearing in 1962 and I believe another licence issued for a year or two years.

So it was almost a repetition of the situation 10 years ago and I think that many of these applications have been going on over about a 30- or 40-year period and there has always been this objection by the town, basically for the same reason as in 1971. So we do not change. The hon. member knows, much better than I, the history of the relationship of that town with its community and with its affiliate, International Falls. When you look back at the situation in 1961 and

what has happened over the last 10 years I do not think the granting of the licence in 1961 and 1962, and up to the present time, has hurt the job situation or the development of northwestern Ontario.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, that is quite possible, Mr. Chairman, but when the president of the company on the American side, took the stand and indicated they wanted the increase to 37,000 kilowatt hours, for the building of a new stud mill and veneer plant on the American side, and under further questioning he said they could just as easily be built on the Canadian side, then surely this is an indication that it is not in the best interests of the people of Ontario or the residents of the Rainy River district.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sure the National Energy Board will take note of that. I understand that this is about 37 or 38 million kilowatts in 1980, starting out at about 14,500 kilowatts now and reaching about 37 million kilowatts over a 10-year period.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is 37,000 I believe.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, 37,000, I am sorry.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, certainly they are not going to build this plant overnight, but if all is as well as the minister outlines, or has just outlined in his remarks, why did the minister feel constrained to write a letter to the chairman of the National Energy Board? And why did he make it abundantly clear, I thought, in one paragraph on the second page, that the government of Ontario could not agree to any export of power if that power was going to be used to build new facilities—to wit, a stud mill and veneer plant—on the American side that could be built at Fort Frances. Obviously there has been a change in the government's attitude.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, if you look at the agreement between Ontario Hydro and Ontario-Minnesota, the provision in that agreement is not for the building of new plants in the United States. There is a provision for some expansion and that is why, based on the agreement, the order-in-council was passed.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, all right. Now surely the minister does not believe that in the next 10 years the present plant there is going to require an increase from 14,500 to 37,000, with normal plant expansion?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is why we felt that, with the review and the hearings conducted by the National Energy Board, that point

would be obvious to them and, as they did in 1961 and 1962, they would indicate the amount of power that would be allowed under this export application.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right. Two other questions:

First, was the minister and was Ontario Hydro aware that the power that the company has been getting from Fort Frances was used not only for the normal operation of the plant but was also put into the Rainy River Development Company's grid and sold at an inflated price to the municipality of International Falls, Minnesota?

Now if that export of power—and the minister can correct me—was for the use of that plant, then the company has broken the spirit, if not also the legal aspect, of the previous agreement by using that power for something other than what it was exported to them for.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Would anybody over there—**Mr. Gathercole**—like to answer that? I know that one of the things I think that was in the previous order in the 1961 and 1962 hearings was that basically because of the restrictive nature of those licences they did not have the expansion that they wanted, but at the same time they may have had some surplus power that they used in the way that is suggested by the hon. member.

Mr. A. Gathercole (Ontario Hydro): Mr. Minister, under the agreement which was made prior to 1962 and approved by the National Energy Board, the delivery of power was to O-M which in turn supplied it to Boise Cascade. If at any time in the operation of the Boise Cascade plant at International Falls there was surplus power, obviously they were going to employ it in some way.

But as far as we are concerned, and I think this is the true nature of the facts, the power supplied was part of an arrangement with O-M which was very useful to Ontario Hydro, because during that period of the 1960's we gained \$4 million, nearly all of which we would not have obtained had there not been this export. That power was generated, in the main, by hydro-electric plants and the power was surplus to our requirements, and so it was made available. This tended to be a financial benefit to Ontario Hydro and a benefit in which the customers in northwestern Ontario shared as well. As far as this arrangement was concerned, it would be perhaps a rare occasion when there would

be any surplus power that would be available for any other customers, other than the immediate requirement of the Boise Cascade plant at International Falls.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am glad the Hydro chairman is not in the Legislature. I wish I had his facility with words.

Let me put it this way. It is my understanding that the 1961-1962 agreement was for interruptible power rather than firm power. Is that correct? It is firm power we are talking about?

Mr. Gathercole: Yes, there was firm power but there was some interruptible power as well.

Mr. T. P. Reid: There was nothing illegal about the company using this power and putting it through the other grid and selling it to the municipality of International Falls?

Mr. Gathercole: I could say that might be a violation in spirit—**Mr. Gordon** may wish to speak to that—this was not our understanding. On the other hand, as I say, if the company is sitting there with power which is surplus to its requirements in the mill at International Falls, obviously it was going to employ that for some purpose.

I myself have been over that evidence—

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am sure you have.

Mr. Gathercole: —of last week and to my mind I know this point was being pursued rather vigorously. On the other hand I do not think it emerges very clearly that there was any real surplus, any significant surplus, of energy which was being employed in other directions. But **Mr. Gordon**, do you want to—

Mr. Gordon (Ontario Hydro): I would not think so. They have their own generation as you know.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, which they cut back on. As soon as they get more power from us, they cut back on their own generation.

Mr. Gordon: Yes.

Mr. Gathercole: So it really would not be our power that was going into this Rainy River Development Company.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Now you know it is not labelled, is it?

Mr. Gathercole: No, that is right, it is not labelled.

Mr. Chairman: Could I suggest to the hon. member that we deal with this further at the appropriate time in the vote? If we could have the minister finish his statement, then we could get on to the vote.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I am not going to be much longer. Dealing with the remarks of the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside, he mentioned Zug Island and also the five-year programme at Falconbridge. All I can say about that is that it is only very recently that technology has provided the expertise that makes it possible to have effective abatement equipment installed there to properly treat those emissions from that type of plant.

Unfortunately, one of the concerns of the company naturally is that they spend money and install equipment and it is in some ways redundant or outdated because of advances in technology. All I am saying is that in view of the size of that programme it takes time to spend that kind of money, to install that kind and extent of equipment. If there was any possible way to shorten that interval we would certainly do so.

I think the hon. member should know that improvements are going on all the time during that five-year programme. For example, at Inco they have the construction of a \$12 million stack—no, wait a minute, that is the height—about 1,200 and some odd feet. I think it is a lot more than that. I think it is around \$20 million that stack is costing. This type of expenditure is going on during this period with a final completion date in about late 1974 or 1975.

Mr. Burr: But in wartime, every day we had dozens of improvements on dozens of devices. It is a survival matter and there is a crash programme, an all-out effort. That is not what I see today in air pollution control.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no question, Mr. Chairman, that if we closed that plant we could do it in 18 months.

Mr. Burr: No. We should get all of our engineers working on this project.

Mr. Chairman: Might I just say to the hon. members of the committee, we have had the opening statement from the minister; we have had the statement from the critic of the Liberal Party and also from the NDP. We have just now had the reply from the minister and so the procedure, I believe, is that we now get on to vote 501.

Before we do, however, since the hon. member for Renfrew North (Mr. Hamilton), who is really chairman of this committee, is now with us, I am going to ask him to take the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, gentlemen. We will go right on from where we left off. Vote 501, subsection 1 of the main office.

On vote 501:

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Chairman, you are making it rather difficult if you are going to go by subsection 1. I would rather go through the minister's speech and ask questions arising out of that particular speech. I think to make an address before the committee as has the minister is the proper function of the minister and it is a proper function of departmental administration. Therefore, I feel free to ask him any questions arising out of the speech that we may hear.

Now the minister indicated that he is going to introduce a comprehensive bill which will involve the department's environmental council in investigating and reporting on potential pollution hazards. Will it have any power to punish those that introduce new pollution hazards, or will it only be able to point the finger and come running to you?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Let us face it realistically. It will not have any legislative or punitive powers. It would be strictly an advisory council that would say that the government should do certain things, should take certain actions, should deal with certain substances. I am thinking, of course, as I say, the idea of the banning of DDT. But I think it would be sort of an ecological milieu where they have the advantage of all the world-wide research that might be available. They have the advantage of a library that would contain all the known authorities on those things that deleteriously affect the environment. They would be experts in their field; they would make recommendations to this government. There is no reason, for example, they could not say that if this is a federal jurisdiction, if cyclamates, for example, in some way affect the environment or some of our resources—this is a poor example—it should be controlled on a national basis, at least on a national basis. This is what Pollution Probe, for example, recommended for DDT: that it should be a Canada-wide ban, a ban on phosphates in detergents should be effected by national legislation, and this type of thing. But, I cannot see really, Mr. Chairman, how we could give this body any judicial power.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect, every newspaper in Toronto has at one time or another featured an article in pollution, be it water, air, noise or waste management. As a matter of fact, there have been a number of productions, one might say. I know that Southam Press—I believe it was in 1968 or 1970—had a special issue in all their papers touching on these topics. Pollution Probe has been continuously issuing up-to-date material. Tell me why you are now going to pass legislation to hire some more experts when we can pick up these kind of experts for a dime a dozen.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is all they are going to get.

Mr. Ben: That is the kind of service they are going to perform too, because we have been telling you what is wrong with our environment.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no: it is strictly voluntary.

Mr Ben: A day does not go by that either the radio does not blare the harmful effects of pollution or you do not see it on television, or read articles about it in the papers or in magazines. And now you tell us you are going to form another council that is going to investigate and report. Do you not think that it is time you start taking some action on these things, or are you going to promise us, on your honour, that you will take action forthwith on every recommendation that this council brings forth.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh no.

Mr. Ben: Oh no!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are bound to have a couple of fellows on there who will want to stop poor George Gathercole from building nuclear plants. We cannot have him do that, can we?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Are we going to stop George Gathercole too?

Mr. Ben: It might be a good idea.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: To be serious, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member mentioned various organizations and agencies and sources that were writing articles, or were considered experts in all the whole field of pollution. But the fact is that there are a lot of conflicts even among those experts and a lot of it is emotional; a lot of it is based on an over-emotional view of a type of—I do not know

what you would call it—a man-made activity which I think hurts our whole effective, legitimate war against pollution.

Mr. Ben: You never conducted a war against anything except the opposition.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no. I think we are doing a pretty good job in Ontario.

Mr. Ben: Oh, fiddle-de-dee. Tell me, what is the figure of 32 on this scale of sulphur dioxide? How many parts per million sulphur dioxide does this represent?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It does not. It is only part of—but why do we not stick to the vote? When you get to air pollution, air management, we will deal with that type of thing. I will have my experts here.

Mr. Ben: What makes it difficult, Mr. Minister, is this: a) I am not a member of this committee; b) I cannot keep running down and up all the time, because that way you find you are missing both committees, because in the interval while you are running back and forth your vote came up.

Now we established it is part of your function to make this report, which you have made. You get paid for it here; there is a statutory amount for it, and I think it is only right—

An hon. member: He is underpaid.

Mr. Ben: Well now, you would probably get paid 10 cents and be worth it too. But, I think we are entitled to question the minister on the statements that he made in this report.

For example, I applaud you that you have opened up more stations to monitor contaminants in Hamilton, Windsor and Sudbury. But tell me, how many prosecutions were there in the Toronto region arising out of your monitoring system?

Mr. Chairman: I might say, if the parties are to progress with these estimates on an orderly basis we should carry on with this in respect of the air management. I am sure there are people within the scope of the committee who will let you know, Mr. Ben, when this matter comes up.

Mr. Ben: Do you mind telling me what the \$2 million pollution abatement incentives are supposed to be used for?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The \$2 million in vote 501? This is The Pollution Abatement Incentive Act.

Mr. Ben: That is what it says in the estimates. Well, what is it going to be used for?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is the five per cent reduction of sales tax on pollution abatement equipment. This is the estimated amount that it will cost the province to implement that particular programme. You will note that it is really a transfer payment.

Mr. Ben: So you are expecting people in the Province of Ontario during the fiscal year 1971 to install \$400 million worth of pollution abatement equipment? Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That would be \$400 or \$40 million—\$400 million, yes.

Mr. Ben: I would think that would be \$400 million.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Four hundred million dollars, right.

Mr. Ben: You think that is what they are going to do, do you?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, last year our programme did not come into effect until July and we spent \$414,000. Now that would involve around \$8 million worth of equipment, plus an installation cost, of course, to industry. With our own incentive programme that the Treasurer (Mr. McKeough) has brought in, as far as equipment is concerned, I do not think that is too large a figure—

Mr. Ben: Well, Mr. Minister—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —as our enforcement programme steps up.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, in reading your statement here, you point out that many firms—I think you refer to oil refineries and steel mills and the like—are presently under ministerial order to take action to clean up their pollution within a specified time. You do not state deadlines within your address.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, they vary.

Mr. Ben: I presume that they do. Perhaps that is why you did not state them. But can I then take it for granted that this five per cent is going to go to people to whom you have already given a ministerial direction compelling them to take certain action to clean up pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. That is the idea of the incentive programme. They can also get a loan if they want it.

Mr. Ben: But you told us that you had already issued these orders last year, or this year. Why now give them five per cent to do something that they were compelled to do under your ministerial order?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: So they can afford to meet our regulations and our ministerial order.

Mr. Ben: But if they could not afford to meet the regulations, why were you putting them under ministerial order before? Why did you not take some action to see that they could do it, instead of us waiting for years and years until we can breathe again?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I can say, Mr. Chairman, is that a year ago we started an incentive programme because particularly small industries could not afford to comply with our ministerial order and our other regulations. We have come in with a programme now so that they do not pay sales tax on their pollution abatement equipment, and they can borrow money through the Ontario Development Corporation on reasonable terms up to \$250,000 for such equipment. This is because of our enforcement programme and the ministerial orders. These fellows come to us and say "Look, it is all very fine for you to place us under an order, but we just cannot afford to do what you say you want us to do unless we get some help." So we have given them some help.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, was it the gentleman over there, Mr. Gathercole, who at one time made a statement and I am quoting:

It has been found that anti-pollution measures can be plain good business. In addition to earning the goodwill and respect of informed neighbours, close control inspection and supervision have resulted in more efficient production of power from each pound of fuel.

It is supposed to save money to put in pollution control equipment.

Mr. Gathercole: It costs money, too.

Mr. Ben: It costs money. You do not take enough out of the taxpayers? Now, Mr. Minister, this—

Mr. Gathercole: Hydro does not obtain its revenue from taxes.

Mr. Ben: In your estimates this year, Mr. Minister, under vote 1, you are asking for \$12,343,000 under the main office vote. Last year you asked for more than 100 per cent of that amount—twice that amount—and you

spent about 90 per cent more last year than you are asking for this year. Now, is the problem becoming more severe or do you mind telling us a) why you spent some \$16 million more than you requested; and b) why are you requesting so much less under the main office vote this year when the problem is more acute, than, in fact, you spent last year?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because last year we gave Hydro \$25 million for the Pickering plant. This year we are only giving them \$12 million.

Mr. Ben: I thought the amount that was requested from the Pickering plant last year was \$20 million? Did you give them more than you were allowed to in the estimates?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The 1970-1971 estimates are right in your 1970-1971 book there.

Mr. Gathercole: It was a loan, fully recoverable.

Mr. Ben: That is a loan, but I still understood it was only \$20 million last year.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, it was exactly \$25 million.

Mr. Ben: It says in my book here,

Energy and Resources Management, pages 5 to 7. Public accounts for 1969-1970. Loaned to the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, re Pickering nuclear power generating station, \$19,529,110.

That is what it says. Are you saying that the accounts are incorrect?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Where are you getting your figure of \$20 million?

Mr. Ben: The public accounts of the Province of Ontario for the fiscal year ended March 3, 1970. Pages 5 to 7, estimates of Energy and Resources—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. You have what figure?

Mr. Ben: It says:

Energy and Resources Management loaned to the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, re Pickering nuclear power generating station, \$19,529,110.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. That was the actual for 1969-1970. Last year it was \$25 million. All right?

Mr. Ben: That was the whole main office.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. You are talking about the year before last.

Mr. Ben: I am sorry. In 1970-1971—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It was \$25 million.

Mr. Ben:—your vote for the department of administration programme was \$27,982,000. That is in the third column on page 70 of the estimates for the third year.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right. And of that amount, \$25 million was for Hydro.

Mr. Ben: But Hydro did not get \$25 million.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, the figure you just gave us was for 1969-1970. This year they are only getting \$12 million.

Mr. Ben: Last year's. Well, this is 1971; this is the current estimates—\$16,684,000, as against \$27,982,000 that was voted last year. In other words, last year they voted about 70 per cent or 80 per cent more than they are being asked to vote this year.

Take off the \$25 million that was voted last year, and that will still make it \$21 million.

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): Well, I do not think we have here the actual figure that we—

Mr. Ben: Twenty-two million dollars, I should say.

Mr. Boyer: You are comparing three years. One year was \$19 million, the next was \$20 million and for the coming year, what we are voting on in this committee, is \$12 million.

Mr. Ben: In the 1970-1971 estimates—that is, for the last fiscal year—we voted \$27,982,000. That is what we voted last year.

Mr. Boyer: Yes, the whole of vote 501.

Mr. Ben: The year before that, we actually spent \$21,904,000.

Mr. Boyer: Well, it is the on-going programme of construction of Pickering that is making a difference in that.

Mr. Ben: The difference is \$11 million.

Mr. Boyer: It approximated \$19 million two years ago, \$25 million last year, and in this year, which we are voting in this estimate, \$12 million. The programme is going ahead and it does not require in the coming year as much money as it did last year, and

I would think that you would be happy to see the programme that far advanced.

Mr. Ben: Could you tell us under this Pollution Abatement Incentive Act how many people, and who they are, who are under ministerial orders to clean up their pollution and the dates of those ministerial orders?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is under another vote as well, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ben: But The Pollution Abatement Incentive Act transfer is in this vote.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, The Pollution Abatement Incentive Act would deal with all industries that install pollution abatement equipment, not just those that are under ministerial order.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I would be very happy to have that now, instead of getting that information piecemeal.

Mr. Chairman: You will have that as we come to it. Mr. Burr?

Mr. Ben: Wait a minute! Just a second, Mr. Chairman. We are up to it now under The Pollution Abatement Incentive Act. I want to know for what purpose the minister is requesting \$2 million.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is the estimated amount of sales tax rebate that will be paid to industries installing pollution abatement equipment.

Mr. Ben: How many have you already ordered under your ministerial order system to put in this equipment and who needs this five per cent and who does not? We want to know the type of companies that are getting this. Is it Eaton's, Simpson's, Inco, the Steel Company of Canada? Who is unable to pay this five per cent? Who is refusing to carry out your ministerial order because—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Nobody pays it.

Mr. Ben: Why are you giving it if they are going to do it anyway?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Abitibi does not pay it. Stelco does not pay it—none of the companies pay it.

This is an incentive programme to eliminate a sales tax. We should not earn revenue on equipment that is being installed to combat pollution. This is the basic philosophy behind this incentive proposal.

Mr. Ben: Why? Everybody else pays five—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am saying that any company that installs pollution abatement equipment applies to The Department of Revenue, I believe it would be, and is refunded the sales tax it pays. They have to pay it but they are refunded the amount of sales tax.

Mr. Ben: Do I take it then, Mr. Minister, that the people who are installing this pollution abatement equipment are going to receive back their sales tax plus a five per cent abatement on the cost of this equipment under the overall five per cent rebate that was mentioned in the Throne Speech?

In other words, are people who are installing pollution control equipment, in essence, going to be receiving a 10 per cent abatement? You nod your head.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Ben: You are saying yes. Do you think that is good government, to show preferences like that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That has been the criterion laid down by the Treasurer. They also get the five per cent if it is pollution abatement equipment.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Now you are telling us 15 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, it would be a total of 10.

Mr. Haggerty: Five, five and five, I thought you said, from each department?

Mr. Ben: Do I take it that Inco and the Steel Company of Canada are going to be getting a 10 per cent rebate? Is that correct, Mr. Minister? Companies like Stelco, Allied Chemical, Inco — other multi-million-dollar corporations, American or Canadian—are going to be receiving a 10 per cent benefit from this government to do that which they are morally and legally obligated to do anyway.

An hon. member: You have missed the point.

Mr. Ben: Is that not so?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are, I say, morally and legally obligated to do—

Mr. Ben: Then why pay them 10 per cent to do that which they are morally and legally obligated to do?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because of the expense involved in doing it.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Look at the profit they make.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are not all making big profits. Do not forget that the pulp and paper industry, for example, in this province is in bad shape.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I know, but right now they are in bad shape and they are employing a lot of people in northern Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The very nature of their problem is very costly.

Mr. Ben: Would it not be better to use all this money to cure or heal some of the illness and the ravages caused by the pollution of these companies instead of giving them more money? After all, they already took so much out of the public, both physically and financially.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are getting into a philosophical debate here.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: The moral aspect of the thing is repugnant to the minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It has nothing to do with the estimates of this department.

Mr. Burr: This is the point I was going to raise. There is a five per cent sales tax and this plan that we have—you had it last year I think—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It started last year, yes.

Mr. Burr: And you give them back their money—fine. But now this other plan that was announced in the budget is supposed to induce manufacturers, business people, to get equipment and machinery in the next two years.

Surely the government should not pay them twice? I mean the people who are putting in the pollution control equipment. They should not be paid twice.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think that there is a danger here to mix the two programmes under the same sort of heading. You must remember that the Treasurer's statement talks basically about production equipment—the idea of equipment that will create jobs.

Mr. Burr: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As you know, we went to great pains to make sure that The Pollution Abatement Incentive Act did not include production equipment.

Mr. Burr: All right, then there is no duplication.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is a grey area, I have to be fair with you, where production equipment may also be considered pollution abatement equipment. You see, it is like a car with a new plug. It lowers the type of toxic emissions from that car but it also makes it go faster.

That is a very small grey area, so I want to be fair and truthful there. But I would say that there would be very few companies that would receive the 10 per cent.

Mr. Burr: Will you talk to the Treasurer and warn him about this, that there may be—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty, you were—

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, before we come up to vote—

Mr. Chairman: Just a moment, Mr. Haggerty has the floor.

Mr. Ben: I have not given up the floor yet. I have not yielded the floor yet.

Will the minister, before we come to the air management votes, table for the members of the committee a list of those firms which are presently under ministerial orders to take action to clean up the pollution, stating when these orders were issued and their termination dates?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Fine. When we reach vote 504 that information will be available.

Mr. Ben: Just a second.

Mr. Martel: I just want to speak to this point if I may.

Mr. Ben: I will finish in only a few minutes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is the hon. member for Humber.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: This sulphur regulation that you are issuing, Mr. Minister, what is going to be the limit of sulphur content in fuels, as you refer to on page 5?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The idea of this is a maximum amount.

Mr. Ben: What is that? Since we have introduced sulphur fuel regulations for Metro Toronto which limit the percentage in fuel oil and coal used in this region—what is the limit of sulphur content of the coal?

Mr. Chairman: This does not come within this vote.

Mr. Ben: It is a ministerial issue. He issued a regulation and that is a ministerial action.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will deal with that under air management branch, if that is all right.

An hon. member: Vote 501.

Another hon. member: I will send out for you if you are not here, George.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty?

Mr. Haggerty: I would like to follow along on the lines of my colleague from Humber. Do you think this is a fair policy for this government to get involved in giving tax incentive programmes for pollution control abatement—that you should go out and tax every individual in this province saying: “We are going to help subsidize industry again”? Do you think this is right?

In my own personal opinion, I think that every industry that draws water from the Great Lakes system should be taxed for every gallon of water—I do not say two cents, but a small tax and then I think they would take better care of the water that they use.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, this is the Treasurer's field.

Mr. Haggerty: No, this is not the Treasurer—you are dealing with \$2 million here.

Mr. Allan: You are not debating the budget statement here, are you?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Haggerty: I am talking about the statement that was made in the budget—the five per cent incentive.

Mr. Ben: I am talking about the five per cent at the bottom of page 71.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I should have heard more from these gentlemen when this legislation was going through the House. It was just all unanimous.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As a matter of fact I have the member for Welland South saying, “This is the type of legislation we need.”

Mr. Haggerty: I would like to see that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Haggerty: I am afraid I did not say that, Mr. Chairman. But I have expressed before, that I think it is time for a halt to this taxing of each individual to subsidize industry in the Province of Ontario. And I can say here, this is perhaps one of the reasons why Texaco wants to locate on Lake Erie.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the member should remember that the cost of installing pollution abatement equipment by industry is going to be passed on to its customers; you are going to pay for it.

Mr. Haggerty: That is right, and we are paying through taxes. That is what industry is saying: “We have to increase the price of our product. Our pollution costs have gone up to we are going to tack this on it.” And then the government comes back and says: “We are going to give you another five per cent back.”

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is why they are not making any headway—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Their record on the Great Lakes basin, for example, and New York state, is terrible with industry.

Mr. T. P. Reid: What they need down there is a watchdog.

Mr. Chairman: It being 6 of the clock, we will adjourn until 8.

It being 6 o'clock p.m., the committee took recess.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

**Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management**

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, May 3, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1971

The committee resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES,
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

(continued)

On vote 501:

Mr. Chairman: In coming to order, I would like to ask for your co-operation this evening in getting matters on the record. They are having a bit of difficulty because of the room. We are getting a jumble of voices, I am told, and if you could co-operate by one individual speaking at a time rather than in a group, I think probably you would get on the record.

We are continuing with vote 501. Is that carried?

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Mr. Chairman, I move the adjournment of the debate. What I was trying to convey to the minister was, the five per cent rebate is supposed to come back as an incentive—as a plan or programme for those who are polluting our air and water. I was reading the minister's speech here and he said recently, "I issued such orders to 15 firms and government buildings in downtown Toronto. It was interesting to note that the pollution level quickly dropped to more acceptable levels."

I just wondered if he applied that five per cent so quickly that they reduced the pollution count to acceptable levels. How is it that they can move just on a phone call from your department to say that they must cut down on the pollution?

I know when you travel through certain places in Ontario, especially in the evening hours or late night, you will see certain industries that will just open up every damper that is there and let out just swarms of pollution.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): I was just thinking of pollution.

Mr. Haggerty: You are thinking the same as I am, but I mean it does happen. I wish the minister was down in my area and I

could take him through such places as Union Carbide around the Welland area and see the pollution that comes out of there. What takes place is that you get the complaints raised to you and the local pollution control offices in the city of Welland say, "They have a permit and that permit gives them the right to pollute."

In Niagara Falls, New York—I see in headlines here: "Chemical Plants Reduce Emissions up to 66 per cent." And they can do this without the government subsidizing them—with a little effort. I was just wondering why the minister is taking this stand to say that we will give another handout to industry to help them.

If they want to get into pollution control abatement programmes such as septic tank use, the government does not come in and say, "Look, it is going to cost you \$1,200 to install that" but they will not come in and say, "Here is five per cent that we will give you." They will not even knock off the building sales tax. I do not think this is the right policy.

Mr. Yakabuski: The federal people will not knock it off.

Mr. Haggerty: The provincial people too.

Mr. Yakabuski: But the federal people will not.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, we are dealing with provincial matters now and you know that.

Mr. Yakabuski: Then we would be in trouble—

Mr. Haggerty: We could argue this thing. Let us forget about that. We are dealing with provincial matters. What I am trying to say is that if you are going to treat one part of the people of the Province of Ontario, one segment—treat them all alike. It can be done.

An hon. member: I believe Mr. Haggerty is finished.

Mr. Chairman: Oh, I thought the minister was going to—

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): First of all, I want to clarify a point. There seems to be some confusion. We are talking about this Pollution Abatement Incentive Act. The item of \$2 million. We are talking about sales tax only. This is sales tax only. This is not an advance or a loan or anything else. This means that when a company buys pollution abatement equipment, they install it and pay for it.

They apply to my department, in conjunction with The Department of Revenue, and if the equipment is installed and if we are satisfied it is strictly pollution abatement equipment and not production equipment, they get the sales tax rebated. That is just what it is and nothing more. It is a form of an incentive. This was debated, as the hon. member knows, last year in the Legislature. This was demanded certainly by a number of members in the opposition.

They also suggested, I can remember, at one time saying, "If you go ahead, probably the federal government will do the same with their sales tax." Well they have not, up to now. But this, we felt, was a reasonable incentive. We did not think it was fair to earn revenue on pollution abatement equipment that does not produce anything, does not result in any revenue to the company and—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: We might have the same problem this evening as we had this afternoon.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Well, Mr. Chairman, it is kind of hard when the back row keeps interrupting.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is not that we are spending taxpayers' money to help big industry out so they will not pollute. It is a form of a rebate. We are not making the extra charge. Now, regardless of what you may think, our programmes call for some industries, because of the nature of the industries, to spend an awful lot of money on pollution abatement equipment, which is a complete loss to them as far as production or revenue is concerned.

By assisting these people with this particular incentive programme, by the small loans programme that we also have through ODC, we can go in and say, "Now, you people meet our deadlines. Comply with our regulations or we will sue you," and they have not got the excuse of saying: "Well, we cannot afford it. If you would give us a break on

sales tax or such and such, we would be in a better position to meet your regulations."

For some of these big companies that have to spend \$5 million or \$10 million, five per cent is a reasonable incentive to them. It is quite a saving. So this is extra cost that has resulted really just in the last few years and you have the situation where only Ontario really, as of now, is imposing stiff regulations and stiff requirements, as far as treating industrial waste is concerned. We are trying to make them a little more competitive with some of their competitors outside the province by offering a reasonable incentive.

Mr. Haggerty: What about, as I mentioned, the private homeowner's incentive as an example, dealing with the Ontario Water Resources? This is pollution control abatement too.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The private homeowner hooks up and is in a serviced subdivision. He pays so much, I suppose, in his taxes for water and sewage. It would be pretty difficult since he does not specifically install pollution abatement equipment.

I am trying to get this Act to be interpreted to apply sufficiently, for example, to a farmer or some type of small businessman who installs this type of equipment which is really required by us if he is in some revenue-producing business or occupation that in some way pollutes our resources. If we can apply this abatement to them, then I think some of your objections will be met.

Mr. Haggerty: You will apply it to them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am trying to get a ruling on that. They have had applications for rebates and I would like to see them honoured.

Mr. Haggerty: I am talking about these persons in the poultry producing business. They create quite a problem.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right.

Mr. Haggerty: It is an expensive item to get into pollution control there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I have got a situation of a poultry man who is in poultry in the Hamilton area and it is a question of either getting some incentives or moving away. So I am trying to get this Act interpreted to include that, and there is no reason why it should not, in my opinion.

Mr. Haggerty: This is in this new Act you have just set?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: On the vote, yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Reid, have you a question on the same point?

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): No I want to talk about Hydro.

Mr. Chairman: There are still some questions on the same point. Mr. Burr.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, because The Abatement Incentive Act is just refunding the sales tax on pollution equipment, The Pollution Abatement Incentive is merely a rebate on sales tax on pollution equipment?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right.

Mr. Burr: Why not cut out all the red tape and just exempt anti-pollution control equipment from the sales tax and then you would not have to have all this money moving back and forth and all the paperwork?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because, as I said before, Mr. Chairman, there is this grey area where there is a question as to what is pollution abatement equipment, strictly, and what is production equipment.

Mr. Burr: It has to be settled at some time or other.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only way really that seems to settle it now is for people, for example the Department of Revenue, who are in the sales tax division and who have some expertise in categorizing and classifying equipment, as well as the amount of sales tax, and so on, they are in a better position, together with the inspectors and technicians of my department to decide really what is in the production end of the plant and what is strictly for the treatment of waste. We want to keep it honest, frankly.

Mr. Chairman: Anyone else to speak to this particular point? Mr. Martel.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): The minister is well aware, of course, when he is talking about a grey area that most of the pollution in the Sudbury area is a result of obsolete production equipment. And he made the point this afternoon that, well it is a grey area and there should not be much duplication. I suggest rather strongly that if International Nickel started to put in the proper equipment, production equipment

that is going to reduce the pollution, then they are going to be getting it both ways, and in large quantities and it is not going to amount, which you indicated this afternoon, to a small amount.

But in the case of Inco, the majority of their equipment at ground level is obsolete and has to be changed over and if they can get it both ways it is going to amount to millions of dollars to them in rebates from both plans. I suggest that they ought to be watched very carefully. Either that or they are going to get the biggest share of the \$125 million as only they know how.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, it is for a good cause.

Mr. Martel: I suggest, Mr. Minister, that the good cause would be to just go in and tell them to clean up, because if there is an area of contention in this province it has to be that company, and the fact that whether it is under air management of water management that other small companies get hauled into court by OWRC, or someone else, but never them. They have never been into court, Mr. Minister. You brought National Steel into court at my suggestion last fall or last spring, but they—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Were you responsible for that?

Mr. Martel: I made the original complaint. But the point is that they were brought into court, and we have given dozens of instances where this mammoth monster goes its merry way under any type of pollution and is never brought into court.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think if there has ever been an incident where Inco or any other company in your area has infringed or breached a section of The OWRC Act, for example, a private citizen can lay a charge. As you know, there have been private citizens in your metropolis who have laid charges successfully. As far as the air pollution is concerned, the company is under a programme now. They have installed some works now and they have spent some money.

Mr. Martel: And they are still polluting.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no question about it—

Mr. Martel: Known to your department, they are still polluting.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, but what is your definition of polluting?

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, maybe I am jumping the gun, but you had a report done in 1967, one of Falconbridge, and one of Inco, and in fact the latest updating of that still indicates seven areas in which effluent is being dumped, and there is no charge. And yet when one small complaint is made—and I was delighted to see them hauled into court—against National Steel, they are immediately hauled into court.

Yet you know, day in and day out, that International Nickel continues to dump effluent in seven different areas and they are not brought into court. Now you give me a letter stating, well, they are trying. Well the CNR was trying five or six years ago, Mr. Minister, and showed your department where they had \$50,000 worth of equipment on order, and you still haul them into court.

Why is it that you can never haul this other outfit into court?

When other companies are trying, they are hauled into court despite the fact that they are trying, and yet this company is never brought into court for dumping whatever you want—cyanide, for cutting tailing lines, which was shown to you, where they allowed the effluent to drip right into a water course, and yet they are never brought into court. What kind of magic have they got that they can stay out of the courts?

Mr. Chairman: I believe we are dealing with another vote altogether.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are dealing with another vote—we are not on 501—but at the same time I would like to answer this question. The same question was raised last year during the estimates. You have a bit of a vendetta on this little old company in Sudbury.

Mr. Martel: Poor. Impoverished.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are talking about a tailing spill. As you know this can be—

Mr. Martel: And about cyanide.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —can be accidental.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: By the time we get sufficient evidence and we get a report on it, it is usually too late to prosecute.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, we showed you by photograph where they cut the tailing line and allowed it to spill out. We had coloured photographs and you did not lay a charge.

They cut it, and then they put the same piece of tailing line back in its original position.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They denied that they cut that.

Mr. Martel: Well, you saw it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They denied that they cut it. They said that was part of the operation.

Mr. Martel: Well, they denied it.

An hon. member: Why do you not lay a charge?

Mr. Martel: Maybe I would in—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Maybe. Or Falkowski.

Mr. Martel: Falkowski—yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Reid, Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if I could proceed to another topic, to thermal power, which is the most expensive. The cost of producing one kilowatt-hour of power, what range would that be in?

Mr. G. Gathercole (Ontario Hydro): Customers take power at different voltages, but subject to these and certain other variations, Ontario Hydro's rates are common to all direct industrial customers and common to all municipal utilities.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, how much does it cost Hydro, with water power, to produce electricity? Which is the cheapest? How much does it cost? What is the range?

Mr. H. Banks (Ontario Hydro): The kind of figure you are looking for, for instance, at Niagara-Degew plants—taking the combination for 1969—the average production cost there was 1.93 mills.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is 1.93 mills per kilowatt-hour? Do you have any idea of the range? Would that be about the cheapest Hydro produces power?

Mr. Banks: Abitibi in 1969 was 2.02; the Ottawa River plant 2.07, and the Nipigon River plants, 1.83. Saunders, the big plant, of course 2.12.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is for hydro power. How about fossil fuel plants? What is the range there?

Mr. Banks: This is 1969 as well. The actual capacity was 47.9 per cent. The unit costs

are affected to quite an extent by the capacity factor for the year. It was 6.35 mills at Hearne. And the Keith plant. And the Keith plant. Where the capacity factor was 43 per cent, it was 9.22 mills. Lakeview was 58 per cent, 5.02 mills.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Did you say the second one was 9.22?

Mr. Banks: That is a small older plant, yes. It operates more or less as reserve.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Can you give me some indication what that cost was, let us say, the 1.93 mills was made up of—what factors are taken into consideration in arriving at that figure?

Mr. Banks: Capital, operating costs, maintenance costs.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Is the return on capital included in that?

Mr. Banks: The interest costs are.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The interest is what, 10 per cent? Or the cost of the bond?

Mr. Banks: I wish the return was 10 per cent. It is the cost of the bond borrowing.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The cost of the bond. All right, thank you.

I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the minister has that information on export of power that I asked him for earlier today? Are those people who are exporting power from Ontario receiving the advantage of the seven or eight per cent which is being picked up by the rate stabilization fund for the coming year?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The people who are exporting power!

Mr. T. P. Reid: Those who are receiving the export of power?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The member means other utilities?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Let us say it is a customer in the United States somewhere, whether it be a utility or a company like Boise Cascade. In Fort Frances, we are exporting power to Boise Cascade, International Falls, Minnesota. We are charging them five per cent above the industrial rate which is being charged—

Mr. Gathercole: It is five per cent above the rate for municipalities. It is about 20 per cent above the industrial rate.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right, five per cent above the cost of the municipality. The municipality is getting advantage of the seven per cent. That is being picked up by the rate stabilization fund, correct?

Mr. Gathercole: Mr. Reid in 1971 there is a provision for the rate stabilization fund and a withdrawal. The power is supplied to the O-M company, which in turn is exporting it to Boise Cascade at a rate that is five per cent above the cost of power as calculated for all municipalities, based on all costs. Taking into account the contribution to the rate stabilization fund and withdrawal from rate stabilization, it is still five per cent above the cost to municipalities and approximately 20 per cent above that of the direct industrial rate, which is common to all direct industrial customers.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right. Now, to show you have not thoroughly confused me, I will try and explain it to myself, if I may. Let us say that we are selling it—let us just use some even figures. We are selling a kilowatt-hour to the town of Fort Frances, the municipality of Fort Frances, at, let us say, \$20 per 1,000 kilowatts. Part of that \$20 cost that Fort Frances is paying to Hydro includes the 15 per cent increase in cost for this year that you announced some time ago. The town only has to pay, in effect, an extra eight per cent of that 15 per cent increase in cost. Right?

Mr. Gathercole: Correct.

Mr. T. P. Reid: They are getting, in effect, seven per cent that is coming out of the rate stabilization fund, which I realize they paid for before to go into that fund. Right?

Mr. Gathercole: Yes, right.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Now this is the point you were getting at. However, we are now exporting power in this particular case—and in other cases—to United States customers, whether they be commercial or utilities in the United States. Have they in the past made a sufficiently large contribution to the rate stabilization fund for you to say or guarantee us that they are not taking advantage of the fund which has been built up in the past few years with primarily Ontario taxpayers' money, one way or the other?

Mr. Gathercole: In the last 10 years we have been supplying power to Boise Cascade up to 14,500 kilowatts, and on that power,

the company would be making the same contribution to the rate stabilization reserve in the same years as contributions were made to the rate stabilization reserve by other customers. Boise Cascade is paying the cost of power calculated to other municipalities and to direct industrial customers. While it is true that they are receiving the benefit of the withdrawal from the rate stabilization reserve, they are also having to pay for the contribution which is made into the rate stabilization reserve in 1971. We have in past years included in the cost of power to O-M which in turn supplies Boise Cascade the provision for rate stabilization reserve.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That contribution to the rate stabilization has been one of the costs in the total cost of power to them in the past?

Mr. Gathercole: That is true.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right. Can you indicate to us—and I do not mean to be parochial in my approach, but it is the area I know best obviously—is there any way of measuring whether their contribution to the rate stabilization fund is going to be equal to what they are going to take out of it? What are they going to enjoy in the withdrawal this year, particularly if, with the concurrence of this government and Ontario Hydro, we give them 37,000 kilowatt-hours of power?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is 37,000 in 1980.

Mr. T. P. Reid: We have a pretty good indication that Hydro is not going to get any cheaper; it is going to get more expensive.

Mr. Gathercole: Yes, but of course that is the conjectural or speculative part of it. We do not know what the National Energy Board is going to do. Besides, in 1971 the proposal was for only 24,000 kilowatts, of which 3,000 kilowatts was standby power. In other words, the contemplation was that it would be drawing about 21,000 kilowatts. I would say definitely that in the cost of that power they were making a contribution to the provision for the rate stabilization reserve in common with other municipal customers, plus five per cent. They would be making a contribution because the price was higher to the extent of 20 per cent more than the cost of power to direct industrial customers.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Just one question which you probably cannot answer. Can you explain to me how Ontario Hydro can produce so much cheaper than the Boise Cascade comp-

any can do right there on the site? Why do they cut back their generators as soon as they get this increase in power every year?

Mr. Gathercole: Mr. Reid, I would say this. We cannot produce power any cheaper than they can from their hydro-electric stations. Those stations were built many, many years ago and I would expect that the cost per kilowatt of power from those stations might run something in the order of what the power is from Abitibi or some of the earlier plants that Ontario Hydro built or acquired. That would be at a very low rate.

When they utilize that power, plus what they get from us, they probably rely on very small turbines or units. I do not know exactly what their technology is, but they would be using small equipment, turbine generating units, which are not very economical.

If they have a surplus of power which is represented by what we are delivering plus what they are obtaining from the hydro-electric plants they are not cutting back on their hydro-electric plants to take power from us. What they would cut off would be some of this very expensive high-cost generation that they would have which is on a very small scale.

If they can, nevertheless, as other pulp and paper industries have demonstrated, install more modern, better, larger units which are quite efficient, and with their combination of, perhaps, using some of the byproducts, they can generate power—in some cases, some paper companies have done this—more cheaply than we can provide it for them at a price related to the firm load.

This is something that has to be contemplated. It is not just a one-way street. They have found it more economical to buy power from us, from Ontario Hydro. We have had a surplus in the past. As I mentioned this afternoon, Ontario Hydro—and the customers all benefit from it—obtained approximately \$4 million over the Sixties, most of which was gleaned from power generated from water plants, not from power generated from the 100-megawatt plant at the Lakehead.

We have benefitted from that.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Is that \$4 million profit?

Mr. Gathercole: It was a \$4 million return as I recall it, the return from electric power, yes. The water is running, so we have the power there so we can supply it. This is one of the questions that the National Energy

Board came back to: Has any customer in northwestern Ontario, within reach of hydro-electric power lines, felt a shortage, accepted a shortage, been exposed to a shortage of electrical energy, and the answer of course was no, they have not been.

We have supplied all our loads that are capable of being supplied in northwestern Ontario and no one has sustained a shortage. So we have had the power to make this export delivery. I am not seeking to get engaged in the controversy, but there are a number of aspects here that you are devoting your attention to which I think probably would seem to be more manageable, at least in our eyes, when they are clarified.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is the problem of getting clarification. This is our problem. If we had a little more information to work with.

I take it then that Hydro and the minister are satisfied that we are getting a fair return for the hydro we are exporting, and that the importers of power from us are not getting any undue benefit from the current setup?

Mr. Gathercole: We are not charging all the traffic would bear, that is so. On the other hand, we are getting more than our cost from the export of power to Boise Cascade. There is no question in our mind about that at all.

You say, "Why are you not charging a much higher price?" The answer is this that O-M have been a good customer of Ontario Hydro. We think that they have developed that part of the province. It seems rather incredible that they have not developed the public relations which would have been more harmonious than they seem to be.

On the other hand, we have viewed them as a good customer and we thought that this export had been beneficial to Ontario in the past and conceivably would be beneficial in the future. You mention, Mr. Reid, one further matter. This price is subject to revision each year.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I could agree with a great deal of what you say. Only when you talk about the O-M or whatever you want to call it, one plant is located on the Fort Frances, Ontario, side of the border and the other plant which we are exporting power to is located in International Falls, Minnesota, and my concern, and the concern of those people who oppose the export of power, is that we are going to export power for the purposes—as admitted by the president of the American company—of building a stud mill and veneer mill on the American side of the border.

It appears that we are giving them power at a much cheaper cost than either they can provide themselves or get from an American utility. In other words, we are giving them a comparative advantage to give them an opportunity to build a mill, on the American side, in direct competition with any mill that either might be built on the Canadian side, and to compete directly with it by supplying them with cheap power. And mills that might very well use other natural resources of Ontario in the way of wood products, may or may not.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think we have gone through all this before, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Reid keeps flogging this thing time after time. He is quite aware of Ontario's position before the National Energy Board. We have indicated that if this export of power results in the building of a new stud mill or any other kind of mill, therefore affecting jobs in Ontario or Fort Frances, we are opposed to it.

I will repeat again, my answer to you this afternoon regarding the hearing in 1961, exactly the same situation arose at that hearing. The same concern was expressed by one of my predecessors as to the effect of this application for increased power. The application in 1961 was for a 10-year licence to export power and the National Energy Board granted a one-year licence based on the concern expressed by the Ontario government, at that time, and based on the availability or surplus of power that might be available to users in northwestern Ontario.

We, in making this agreement with Ontario-Minnesota, have made the agreement based on the sale of power to Ontario-Minnesota to export a certain amount of it to its affiliate at International Falls.

If you look at the whole picture, as the hon. member knows, Ontario-Minnesota also supplies power to the town of Fort Frances and the rates for that power are based on a 1909 agreement. It is about one-third of the normal rate that is earned by Ontario Hydro in that area.

So the company supplies power to the town of Fort Frances at a substantial loss. We feel that Ontario-Minnesota is a good customer. It should be a good corporate citizen in northwestern Ontario, but for some reason or other a lot of people just do not like them, the same as we do not like Inco and Falconbridge in the Sudbury area.

They provide a lot of jobs, but for some reason the greatest source of being flogged in this province and I would think at this

stage in our history you are concerned not only about jobs supplied by those large companies, but also what they can do in their operations in the bush.

I do not think that any agreement we make on a reasonable basis for doing business with a company like this will be to the disadvantage of this province, and I think that criticism should be tempered in view of all the facts and all the negotiations that have been going on with this company for the last 60 years.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You know, that is rather an impassioned defence of Boise Cascade, and I am sure they will appreciate it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, I do not know them, I have not spent the weekend with them. I do not know them.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, they are very nice people. I do not want to flog this any more, but my concern is the jobs of the people in that area, and that is my point. This government has left it up to the National Energy Board to make a decision. This government gave approval to the agreement between Ontario Hydro and Boise Cascade for an export of power last spring.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, they did not.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May or June, what was it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, they did not.

Mr. T. P. Reid: When did the order-in-council come out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no agreement between Boise Cascade and the government, is there?

An hon. member: Ontario-Minnesota.

Mr. T. P. Reid: A wholly owned subsidiary. Usually the minister does not lower himself by—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Just stick to the facts, that is all.

Mr. T. P. Reid: For the record then, Ontario-Minnesota is a wholly owned subsidiary of Boise Cascade.

Mr. Gathercole: There is not an agreement as such. You mention an agreement. There is not an agreement at the present time governing the delivery of power today, of which I am aware, except the one that has expired and which is subject to National Energy Board approval. There is a letter of intent.

Mr. T. P. Reid: What was the order-in-council then?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It was an agreement. The order-in-council covered two agreements.

Mr. T. P. Reid: My only point is—and I did not mean to go into this, the minister raised it—that the government gave approval to that agreement without being aware of the facts.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We certainly were aware of the facts.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You were not aware at that time that the company on the American side was planning on building a stud mill and veneer mill.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We were not aware of it—

Mr. T. P. Reid: And in your letter to the National Energy Board you practically admit that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are getting this information from evidence that was given at a hearing by the president of the company. Has any money been allocated for the construction of that new plant? Has that new plant started its construction yet at International Falls? They have not started the construction of a new mill, and you know it.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, certainly not. They are going to.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, what are you talking about, because there are some present plans they are going to? We are telling you now that the reason we are entering into an agreement for the export of power is because an existing agreement has terminated and expired. This is a procedure that is going on for 40 or 50 years, when an existing agreement expires it is renewed, under certain terms and conditions, and only upon the approval of the National Energy Board.

Now if they have any plans, as they supposedly had in 1961, for the building of a mill and it did not materialize, if they have any plans in 1971, and they are going to use that power for that purpose, we are opposed to it. We have indicated our position based on that. But our agreement does not provide for them to build a new plant.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Does the minister seriously consider that because of that present mill on the American side, or even on the Canadian side, in 10 years they are going from an increase in power of some 14,500 kilowatt-

hours to somewhat near 37,000? Is this normal—that an ordinary plant—you take one in Toronto or anywhere else—is going to require that much increased power for normal operating and whatever small expansion that you do in a plant?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is quite possible that there would be sufficient expansion.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is 2.5 times.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right, you are talking about 10 years.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Oh now, this is really—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: He is getting votes from Fort Frances for all this.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Can you give me an indication? Do you mean to sit there and tell me that an average industry or company, whatever size you want to take, for the normal operation of its plant doubles its need for hydro-electric power every 10 years?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think these are all academic questions. All I am saying is, if they want this extra power by 1980 and it involves the construction of a new mill, we are opposed to it—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —if it affects the job situation at Fort Frances, or the economic condition in your riding or northwestern Ontario. We have made that quite plain.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Finally. Okay, I will accept that. One more question and we will go on to something else.

In view of the fact that the town of Fort Frances did oppose this export of power, and in view of the fact that it is a small municipality and they were the only ones who were prepared to oppose the export of power, will the minister or the government consider paying any of the cost for the legal fees for this opposition to the export of power?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would assume that the counsel for the town of Fort Frances made application before the board that costs be awarded to the town, and I would think that on that basis the board would consider awarding costs to the town based on—as in any litigation or any type of hearing—the decision that is finally handed down by the board. In other words, if it was a valid intervention and objection I would think the—

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is not usual though.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Toward costs?

Mr. T. P. Reid: In the export of power of any kind.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think it is quite possible under the terms of the operation of the National Energy Board to award costs to an intervener. I would think, and hope, frankly that in this case the town of Fort Frances, in view of the expert and duly qualified counsel that that town had, such costs would be awarded to the town.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Just one more question on hydro. Can you indicate what the average cost per mile of hydro line is in a rural area? \$3,000?

Mr. Gathercole: I have not got that figure.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Five thousand or \$6,000?

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, on a point of information, how many kilowatts did this company have 10 years ago in relation to—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Ten years ago I believe their application was for 10,000 kilowatts. Is that right? It seems to me in the 1961 application. And ending up at 14,500 in 1970.

Mr. Burr: How do you account for that increase, which is almost 50 per cent? How was that increase of almost 50 per cent accounted for?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would assume that there were some normal expansions and changes in the operation of that plant. I am not aware that any new plant was built during that period. Do not forget that that is over a 10-year period.

Mr. Chairman: If we might just keep it in order, I think Mr. Yakabuski is next.

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Chairman, I have a few brief questions to the minister and to Mr. Gathercole. I am assuming that any time an agreement of sale is negotiated with anyone like the companies that have been mentioned here earlier, the only power that is sold would be power that is surplus at the time or for the foreseeable future?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right.

Mr. Yakabuski: How long would these agreements normally be for?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The application in this particular instance is for 10 years. It is a licence for 10 years.

Mr. Yakabuski: Is this the normal agreement?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is what it was. I do not go back any more than 10 years. There was an agreement between the same two parties made in 1961 which was also a 10-year term, but for which the National Energy Board gave a licence for only one year. Then there was another hearing in 1962, and then I believe it was for two years. I could be corrected on that.

Mr. Yakabuski: All these sales must have the blessing or the approval of the National Energy Board?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The National Energy Board—among the things we have mentioned already this evening—must include in its consideration that it is surplus to Ontario Hydro's needs and that the price is over and above the price charged in Ontario.

Mr. Yakabuski: Then somebody objecting to a sale, for instance in this case the town of Fort Frances, would they have recourse to make representation to the National Energy Board also?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, there were about six or seven interveners at this particular hearing, and whether there were any individual citizens I do not know, but the town was represented, I think the Chamber of Commerce was represented, the town of Kenora was represented; I believe the Manitoba government was also represented. Can you think of some more?

Mr. D. Gordon (Ontario Hydro): Several labour unions.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Several unions.

Mr. Yakabuski: So we are actually saying that in addition we have a national safeguard, so there is little chance of power that should remain here being exported or sold in any manner? That is fine.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a good point.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, that is.

Mr. Yakabuski: If I wanted to pursue it with the man from Fort Frances I would have to tell him that his brother could have handled it at the National Energy Board level and he would not have had to take all day here.

Another thing, maybe this question, Mr. Chairman, is premature—and maybe some people will think it is not related—but I am

assuming then that this announcement that Hydro-Quebec made the other day with regard to the sale of power to Con-Edison, would this already have approval of the National Energy Board?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean James Bay?

Mr. Yakabuski: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is only really a twinkle in Robert Bourassa's eye right now, I would think, and—

Mr. Yakabuski: Well there is one question I think more directly related to the province and it is this: From what Hydro officials of Ontario know today of the proposed development of Quebec Hydro on James Bay, will it have any effect on water that Ontario Hydro might want to develop some day on that same body?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: My answer right off the bat is no. Remembering the map up there and the rivers as they flow into that bay I do not think they would affect any streams in Ontario. Is that right?

Mr. Gathercole: Yes.

Mr. Yakabuski: The last one is this item here—\$1,720,000, a grant to the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario re rural, primary and secondary lines. Would someone give me some detail on that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, this is a grant that is made to Hydro amounting to 50 per cent of the total expenditure of Hydro for rural, primary and secondary lines. In other words, this is, you might say, a form of a rate stabilization. It keeps the rates down because it is a form of a grant.

Mr. Yakabuski: Is this really geared to trying to hold down the rates in rural Ontario? Is that the prime purpose?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, but it is mainly in northern Ontario.

Mr. Gathercole: To extend the benefits of electric energy into the rural parts, the northern parts now, of the province.

Mr. Yakabuski: This applies to any rural line being built in any given year?

Mr. Gathercole: In northern Ontario.

Mr. Yakabuski: What do we consider northern Ontario here? Would we not say some place up near Wingham or Parry Sound?

An hon. member: Pembroke.

Mr. Martel: Just north of Barrie.

Mr. Gathercole: It formerly applied throughout the whole of Ontario, but when southern Ontario became almost covered—that is, most user customers were supplied with electrical energy—then it was just confined to northern Ontario.

Mr. Yakabuski: Was this sort of policy in effect 20 or 25 years ago when an advanced rural electrification programme was going on south of the north-south boundary, so to speak?

Mr. Gathercole: It was introduced in 1920.

Mr. Yakabuski: So then all rural lines built in Ontario in the past 50 years have been subsidized to some degree?

Mr. Gathercole: Except for those in southern Ontario in the last 12 years.

Mr. Yakabuski: Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Makarchuk?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is the type of questions I like. I wish they would all ask those.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): On the Energy Board and the export of power, is there any reason why the Energy Board should be—well, outside of the legal technicality that has to be approved if they are exporting power that the Energy Board has to approve—but the Ontario government in itself when it is dealing with Ontario Hydro, which is a Crown corporation, then the minister can decide and say that they will not export power to Boise Cascade or Ontario-Minnesota or whatever it is? In other words, you do not really have to be concerned about the Energy Board?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, that is right. This requires an order-in-council, the agreement between Hydro and its customer, if it involves the export of power.

Mr. Makarchuk: Thank you. So the responsibility really lies with you? In other words we cannot slough it off and say the Energy Board permits this so therefore we went along with this.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. It is a matter of policy. If this government decides that it will not export any power, in other words it will not be part of the North American grid—

Mr. Makarchuk: Not necessarily a part of the North American grid, but it can decide it will not export power in this particular area? Then the decision is yours and you can stop that export?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): On the same point, if the minister will permit a question, the minister said a few moments ago that if the stud mill and veneer mill, or some other major economic expansion was undertaken by Boise Cascade in the International Falls location, he would be opposed to it. Can he tell us in what manner he could make that opposition effective? I understand they have been approved to run to 1980?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right, but first of all this is a position that we make as an intervener at the National Energy Board hearing. We have representatives of the government there. There are our representatives as well as Hydro and other parties that are attending that hearing, and we make our position known that if this increased power means as I said, then we are opposed to it.

Now as has been mentioned by the chairman, these rates, I believe, are reviewed every year, so really you might say the agreement of the contract is really reviewed every year.

Mr. Peacock: But only in regard to the rates?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. But you can do wonderful things with the rate to the point that it becomes prohibitive and maybe the agreement does not carry on. Also I think there is a clause in there—and you can confirm this, Mr. Chairman—as to the surplus to our needs based on our requirements or plans for expansion or providing the customers in north-western Ontario.

We can change that policy practically on an annual basis you see, so we have quite a few conditions or outs—if you want to use it that way—set out in the agreement. So that if this becomes a disadvantage to Ontario Hydro or to the government or to the people of Ontario I would think that it could be cancelled almost on an annual basis.

Mr. Peacock: So if there is no evidence of the commencement of expansion by Boise in International Falls then Ontario Hydro will not reconsider its approval prior to the conclusion of the hearings by the Energy Board?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, the Energy Board hearings are concluded.

Mr. Peacock: They are concluded?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are concluded now and we have made our position known and—

Mr. Peacock: But it is a position which is conditional upon Boise going ahead with some development on the far side of the river?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it is conditional on their not going ahead, let us put it that way.

Mr. Peacock: Right, not going ahead.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 501 carry?

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: I have three points I want to raise with respect to hydro. I might leave one for you though, Mr. Minister, unrelated to hydro. I will give you time to find the answer. They have denied the fact that Inco cut the tailing point. Did you question the employees through the union?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not cut the line. You are just not on the right vote.

Mr. Martel: I will leave that and come back to hydro. I will leave you to find that answer between now and the time when we go back to OWRC.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It might be tomorrow morning.

Mr. Martel: Right. Well, fine. How much does it cost us to import it through the grid from the United States, per kilowatt at peak times? My understanding is that it is considerably more to us to import it than when we export at peak loads. Is that right or wrong?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is wrong.

Mr. Martel: Some of your engineers tell me this.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean in sales and purchases from utilities?

Mr. Martel: Right. Let us say from the United States. Let us say we have a shortage and we have to import. I am told it is much higher to us. It could be misinformation. I want it clarified.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Let me answer your question this way. In 1970 we sold to three different sources 2,827,430,000 kilowatts of power.

Mr. Gathercole: Kilowatt-hours.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Kilowatt-hours. We imported 2,856,198,800. So we imported how much more? About 30 here?

Mr. Martel: Thirty million.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: About 30 million more than we sold and we made a profit of \$10 million.

Mr. Martel: So we are actually, despite the fact that we imported more, buying it cheaper?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. And do not let anyone ask me if our rates are higher than the States, because I do not know.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Root.

Mr. Martel: Just a moment now, Mr. Chairman. Do not panic, okay?

Mr. Chairman: Never.

Mr. Martel: Well do not. I wanted to ask more questions if you do not mind, with your indulgence.

Mr. Chairman: If the member for Wellington-Dufferin does not mind.

Mr. Martel: Thank you, I will not take very long. I want to ask a very direct question regarding the Hartley Bay area where a number of residents have been trying to obtain power for about 13 years, and we have had some tentative agreement last fall with respect to the fact that if the people put in extra units they would be entitled to this power.

It is something that disturbs me, because in effect there are about 40 or 50 families in there who are less than five miles away from power and yet must buy at least two units or three in some cases, in order to get the hydro power in Ontario, and these are year-round residents. It just seems a little strange that they would have to go to the extra two or three units in order to get what most of us take for granted in the provinces—supplied hydro power—at considerable cost to themselves.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, this is talking about rural lines. I think we have got some sort of a formula of so many people.

Mr. Gathercole: Fifteen units per mile of line.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. Now, I suppose that formula can be changed. It may make a substantial difference in the cost of hydro to people in the area. If you want to lower it from 14 to nine or eight or seven, that is something I suppose, but Hydro would say to provide that overall cost would mean a substantial increase in rates.

Mr. Gathercole: The cost would have to be borne. We have to work to some formula, otherwise we would be constantly extending electric energy, and accumulating the cost which would drive up rural rates for everyone. So we do work to this formula which is 15 units per mile of line. Now, if the line is say five miles long you have to have that number—75 units—in order to obtain service.

Mr. Martel: In that case there would be 100 and some units.

Mr. Gathercole: The customers, however, have another alternative. They can put up part of the cost of the line and as more customers come on in the course of time, then they can be relieved of part of that cost. Mr. Gordon is an expert in this. He knows it from beginning to end.

Mr. Martel: Well, let me just finish. They cannot, because they are in Killarney Park and by the restrictions placed on it by the department, there is no more building going there. So they will never be able to recoup, because you cannot increase the number of people who are going to make access or make use of that power line simply because of—

Mr. Gathercole: Some customers finance part of the five miles. Surely in an area in which some additional customer loads, or farm loads will emerge—

Mr. Martel: No, it is in a park. It is in a provincial park where there is a restriction on the number of units, or the fact that in this area they just cannot build any more camps until they are in a park area which has been restricted.

The other point I wanted to raise with respect to that, in view of the fact that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has now put in some pretty tough regulations with respect to—and I know the problem—urban development as we have it in northern Ontario, where this is going to be turfed out by and large and we will not have this ribbon development, so we are going to be forcing closer development of people in order to force services and so on.

Would it not be—because of these things—possible now to review the formula to try and reduce it? Because it can bear a real hardship on a number of families, and as I say, we are so accustomed to going over and turning on the light switch, but when you are five or six miles away, if you are still using gas and you cannot have television and so on, it becomes a real burden. That is just the one area that I know. My colleague, the member for Thunder Bay, has a number in northwestern Ontario with the same type of problem, and it is pretty expensive.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think when we are looking at some of these areas regarding the generation of power, that it would probably be almost as cheap to do it with turbine units or diesel units right in these little communities, as by stringing these lines for five or 10 or 15 miles through the bush with fewer than the number of customers per mile that is the present formula.

Sometimes where there are company communities, the company will generate electricity but if there is a breakdown there is not too much concern. It has not been all that efficient in many communities, so Ontario Hydro in conjunction with the federal government as far as reserves are concerned and in conjunction with us, may have to come up with some sort of a new policy to assist those small communities. I think it will probably be by way of local generation of power, rather than—

Mr. Martel: And possibly before the estimates are finished some of them could let me know if the Hartley Bay area one is going to go ahead, if enough units have been garnered by people taking two and three units could have it.

The last point—and maybe someone discussed it this afternoon; if I am repeating I do not know; Mr. Chairman would indicate—you indicate that the cheapest method of producing power is water by and large?

Mr. Gathercole: It has been in the past, but it is not necessarily the cheapest way of producing power today.

Mr. Martel. In northern Ontario the majority of power is by water though, as I understand it.

Mr. Gathercole: The most economical sites are not in northern Ontario, but they are rather in the Niagara, the St. Lawrence, the Ottawa—

Mr. Martel: But you have a large number in northern Ontario, which as I understand it, produce power pretty cheaply. Why is it that we sell rural rates pretty well similar across the province, despite the fact that we bring down power all the way from northern Ontario at a tremendous cost through those lines, and power is not cheaper in northern Ontario where it is produced than in the south, when the reverse works in gasoline? You know, we get it at 14 cents a gallon more—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are generating more power in southern Ontario than we are in northern Ontario.

Mr. Martel: All right. But you have got an ample supply for northern Ontario. As I understand it, through the grid it comes down—

Mr. Gathercole: Sometimes it comes down through northern Ontario and sometimes it goes back. You are hoping it goes back.

Mr. Martel: It goes back? Well, I just cannot understand though, when we produce, I am sure, a sufficient amount on the average of around a year, with the cheapest form of power being produced in the north, why our rates should be similar to the south? You know, we do not get very many breaks up there. We do not get it on gas, despite the fact that the minister is responsible—

Mr. Gathercole: That is one that you do get, though, because the density of the load is low and unit cost as a rule is higher.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Mr. Gathercole: By this pooling arrangement, the people who live in the more sparsely settled parts of the province obtain the benefits—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do not forget that big northern grant of \$3 million a year.

Mr. Martel: For the people right near the power plant in the Wahnapiatae area, I have seen bill after bill of \$50, \$60 and \$70 per house. I sent some to you a year ago. There are no services, no hot water or anything, and they are paying \$60 and they are only 4 miles away from the power plant at Mc-Vitie. You explain that to the people in the Wahnapiatae area, why they are paying so high and they do not have a hot water tank or electric stove. I have seen bills up as high as \$75 for two months and they are five miles away from the dam that produces the power.

Mr. Gathercole: Their use must be great on the TV service.

Mr. Martel: Well I have been in homes where they do not even have a hot water tank.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): Mr. Chairman, I would like to see an example of this and I would like the hon. member to bring in a typical example—

Mr. Martel: Well Mr. Gathercole has the—

Mr. Henderson: —of a \$75 light and television bill. I would like to see this example.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Gathercole, did I not send you six bills—

Mr. Henderson: This is misleading the committee again, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Martel: Why do you not go and blow up!

Mr. Henderson: Come on out with some true facts for a change.

Mr. Martel: The member is just a bag of wind over there. He is just here to defend the minister—

Mr. Henderson: I am not defending the minister. We just want some true facts.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I know of a particular case—I do not think it was in my area; I think it was in Renfrew South—where people complained very bitterly of high power rates on their individual bills. We found that they had been drying out their wood for the year with the electric stove in the kitchen. It is very difficult to sit at this table and for the minister or Mr. Gathercole to indicate to this committee where people's bills might accrue.

Mr. Martel: What sort of committee should they bring it up to then?

An hon. member: Write a letter.

Mr. Martel: I have.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order! Order!

An hon. member: Would the chairman please explain just where we are now on the estimates?

Mr. Martel: Hydro.

Mr. Chairman: Rural rates, 71.

Mr. R. K. McNeil (Elgin): We have been told that the rates are very high in northern Ontario. You have said that you would produce evidence. Let us have it.

Mr. Martel: What is this? The—

Interjections by hon. members.

An hon. member: I know it is a little unconventional.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: I submitted the bills to him. I am not going to answer those flunkies.

Mr. Chairman: If the minister has no further statement, Mr. Root will have the floor.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Chairman, on this subject of rural lines—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Root: Can I have the floor? I understand at the present time it applies to northern Ontario—could you tell me how much grant the province has given to subsidize the rural lines over Ontario? The entire province.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is \$1,720,000.

Mr. Root: I do not mean next year. I mean to date.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: To date?

Mr. Root: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I can give you some figures.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well over \$100 million.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That \$1.7 million is not merely for northern Ontario, is it though?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Root: That is why I am asking the question. Somebody might say you have nothing to show in our area and I want to know how much in total. How much?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is \$122 million.

Mr. Root: It is \$122 million.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I hope he is taking a bicycle up there to get them.

Mr. Root: It is \$122 million—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is since 1920.

An hon. member: That is 50 years.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Peacock.

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Chairman, could Hydro tell the committee how much it budgeted this year, or how much was spent last year, on public relations and marketing components of its operating branches? Is that kind of information for the committee?

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): Really that is not, it does not come—

Mr. Peacock: Hydro's internal operations, are they not under this vote?

Mr. T. P. Reid: They do not show up anywhere else.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is something that could be discussed when Hydro appears before the standing committee on government commissions.

Mr. Peacock: I wonder, Mr. Chairman. I know that the figure was provided the standing government commissions committee when it met to consider the Hydro rate increase of January, 1970. That session of the commission was in late 1969. Whether or not the breakdown was given at the 1970 meeting of the standing government commission with Hydro officials, I do not recall. I know it is available and possibly at some point in the committee's proceedings one of the officers of Hydro could answer me.

Mr. Gathercole: Mr. Chairman, it has been relatively stable for the last seven years. It has increased modestly—

Mr. Peacock: Is it somewhere within the area of \$5 million?

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 501 carried?

Mr. Ruston: No, Mr. Chairman. I have a question for Hydro on a couple of things with regard to western Ontario. I think there is some planning on new lines into south-western Ontario toward Windsor. I heard one figure on the costs for producing Hydro. Did I hear—I think the chairman mentioned it—the J. Clark Keith plant? This, I think, is the one in the city of Windsor. Was there a cost figure there of nine mills while other ones run from about 1.8 to 2.01?

Mr. Gathercole: About nine mills.

Mr. Ruston: About nine? That is about four times as much as the average in many other ones then?

Mr. Gathercole: It is a small plant built many years ago.

An hon. member: Does that even things out?

Mr. Banks: No. It becomes more of a reserve capacity as the years go along. As I mentioned, when I gave that figure, it is operating on a fairly low load factor at the moment but it is there—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: As a standby, you mean?

Mr. Gathercole: The hydraulic plants are operating at the full run of the river.

Mr. Chairman: Does the member for Windsor West have a question?

Mr. Peacock: Yes, Mr. Chairman, on vote 501. The question relates to policy and it does not touch on any particular agency or branch of the department. I wonder if I could raise it now?

I would like to ask the minister if he has read the recommendations of Mr. Justice McRuer in regard to the various divisions of the department and agencies under his jurisdiction. In those comments, Mr. McRuer cited that The Air Pollution Control Act and The Ontario Water Resources Act, in particular, enacted a specific prohibition against pollution. The Acts go on to state how exemptions from that prohibition can be approved by the agencies under the minister's charge.

In giving those exemptions which are, in effect, the setting of standards which permit an exemption from absolute prohibition, Mr. McRuer suggested that the people for whose benefit the prohibition was enacted should have something to say about the setting of the standards. I want to ask the minister if he has yet had the opportunity to consider his response to Mr. McRuer's recommendation?

Does he concur, that those of us who live under the protection of these two particular pieces of legislation about pollution, that prohibit all pollution of either kind—waterways or ambient air—should have the opportunity to declare ourselves before the appropriate government department or agency or the minister himself as to what we feel is an acceptable standard for exemption from the absolute prohibition to pollute?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Dealing with the remarks of Mr. McRuer, the Act does, as you indicate, say in so many words, thou shalt not pollute. I think it is reasonable to expect that we have to have standards. I am sure that the standards, for example, for air emissions in one city or one part of the province may be quite different from another. It is not as if we are permitting pollution under an air management Act or anything else. It is just to set up certain criteria and certain standards which industry or municipal facilities must follow across the province in one universal manner.

Mr. Peacock: Does the minister not feel though, Mr. Chairman, at this point in time, given the public concern of the past few years and the kind of educational work that has, in effect, gone on largely as a result of the action of his department and agencies as well as private citizens' organizations and other groups, that the public now has sophistication and knowledge to share with the regulating agencies at least the discussion, if not the determination, of what the standards for exemption from the prohibition of pollution should be?

If I may deal with it by way of example: a large polluting industry just south of Windsor on the Detroit River is now operating under a ministerial approved plan for abating its discharge into that waterway. This was effected in 1969. The approval, however, did not call for the end of the dumping of the material which discolours the water. That discolouration is particularly objectionable to the people who would be using the waterway for recreational or aesthetic purposes.

I feel the minister is right in this respect, that the determination may well be the prerogative of the agency or department, but the discussion of what the standard ought to be should be shared in by the public.

In that particular instance, as in so many others, the public may well find that the standards approved by OWRC or whatever the agency are not adequate to its purposes. Certainly, while no one is proposing that municipalities be shut down, so to speak, if their sewage treatment and collection facilities are not adequate, or that important industries shut their doors and throw thousands of people out of work, surely someone should be heard before a tribunal of this government establishing standards that ought to be set, even if the tribunal is not likely to entertain the suggestion to bring to the forefront of public attention the degree to which the

pollution is affecting that particular individual. I think Mr. McRuer is emphatic in that part, that those for whose benefit the prohibition was enacted and for which exemption is to be given should be heard, at least, if not given the veto over the standard.

Does the minister not feel that some of these tribunals should now throw open their proceedings, at some point after the negotiations with the particular municipality or corporation or individual, to a public hearing on the standards that are proposed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, as I say, we have no objection to Mr. Justice McRuer's recommendations. We would be concerned, of course, that a hearing such as this would involve a certain amount of technical or scientific evidence and information as to the effect the effluent from a plant or an industry might have on a waterway.

If there was—and I am sure there is, as the hon. member suggests—a certain amount of knowledgeable public opinion, certainly we would welcome the type of forum that he suggests whereby, before a ministerial order was placed on a particular company or before a timetable was arrived at which is part of that ministerial order, it could be subject to some form of public scrutiny and consideration. That could be in the form of a hearing, such as before the energy board, for example—

Mr. Peacock: Or OWRC.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —or OWRC, which could be quite informal. It would not have to involve any expense on behalf of the public—

Mr. Peacock: Or change in legislation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, right.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 501 carried?

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): I would like to ask a question or two of the Hydro officials. I do not want to miss an opportunity to make some political hay here.

Mr. Chairman, for many years I have talked about additional power being developed in the Niagara River. It was said here tonight, and I have heard it before, that power can be developed, not more cheaply, but possibly better—yes, and more economically in some instances—from water than from thermal or nuclear power.

It was brought to my attention by an old engineer whom some of you are acquainted with—and that was the city manager, Bill Orr. I think the chairman of Hydro would

be acquainted with him, a very knowledgeable man of the area and a good engineer—he informed me many years ago when he was the city manager and I was the reeve of Chippawa, that he felt that there was a lot of water going over that falls that could be developed and used for additional power and not hinder in any way the crest of the falls.

To make my argument without notes—I did not expect I would be speaking here tonight, so I have to take it from memory—the Horseshoe Falls, with which you are acquainted, has a fall of about 161 feet from the top to the bottom. From that point to the Queenston powerhouse, better known as the Sir Adam Beck power station, there is a 110-foot fall of that river. My figures are not that far off; I think you will find I am pretty accurate in my figures.

When Sir Adam Beck No. 2 was built—I suppose I should touch on the treaty between United States and Canada. You have a treaty whereby you must allow a certain amount of water to go over that falls and, in the fall of the year till April some time, you can cut down to 50,000 cubic feet per second the flow that goes over the crest of the falls. During the summer months when you have the tourists there, according to the treaty you must allow 100,000 cubic feet per second.

They have that water measured out very well and they find that from midnight until 8 o'clock in the morning through the summer months they can cut that flow down again to 50,000 cubic feet per second. In other words, they draw off more water from midnight till morning than they do in the daytime in the summer months.

Two big tunnels were built from above the falls in the Niagara River, one to the Robert Moses plant on the American side, and one to the Sir Adam Beck No. 2 station on the Canadian side. Two man-made lakes were developed. They have an 85-foot head approximately.

The water is pumped into those man-made lakes through the night and then in the daylight hours they reverse their pumps, or whatever they do to them, and they generate power from those man-made lakes. They drop the water from an 85-foot head to about a 40- or 45-foot head. In other words, they store up enough water through the night to develop sufficient power to sell and to develop two lakes that are a mile across.

All they take off in each tunnel, or are supposed to take off, is 25,000 cubic feet per second in the tunnel on the Canadian

side and 25,000 cubic feet per second on the American side. They have an equal right. In the day, they allow the 100,000 cubic feet to go over that falls. If that is done economically—and it must be or they would not have developed those two big lakes—it strikes me you are losing the head from the foot of the Horseshoe Falls to the Sir Adam Beck and the Robert Moses plants. You are losing a 110-foot head of 100,000 cubic feet per second in the summer months when you really need that power.

I have talked to some of the minister's engineers from time to time at functions which I have attended, and I brought this to their attention. Naturally I found that I was telling them about something they were not acquainted with. Now I am coming to the question. If the minister's engineers have worked on this, and I believe they have, and if they have a 110-foot head in that Niagara River that supplies 100,000 cubic feet of water per second, why can you not build a plant downstream, just before you hit the Robert Moses plant and the Sir Adam Beck No. 1 and No. 2, and take advantage of the water that is flowing freely there without any benefit to anyone?

Some of the engineers said to me at that time: "What would you do with the ice?" Well, that problem was settled partially by the Hydro when they put that boom across the mouth of Lake Erie before the water enters the Niagara River. Right now you have any amount of ice there, because that boom held the ice back and that is a partial benefit; it stops that particular problem from being such a major thing, because the Niagara River, until a week or two ago when they began to take some of these logs out to allow the ice from Lake Erie to go over the falls, was free of ice as a matter of fact. So I believe that power can be developed.

Some of my constituents in Niagara Falls have taken me to task because of this proposal that I have made in the Legislature, because they thought that I was going to further hinder the beauty of the Niagara River and the water that flows across over the crest of the falls. Well, I was not going to do that. If anything, we were going to allow more water to run over the falls and bring it back eventually almost to its natural state. Possibly we would also eliminate the two lakes that you have so many problems with, by pumping water in and then pumping water out again and developing power when you could do it naturally from the natural flow.

To me, that made sense at that time and still makes sense, and I think maybe I would like the minister and the gentlemen who are acquainted with this problem to tell me whether this is not a feasible programme. It certainly makes sense to me as a layman. It was told to me by engineers who appear to know that it can be done. I would like to know whether this is feasible, if it can be developed and if you have any information on the subject that I speak of.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Smith, the chief engineer, can answer that. But I am sure one of the things he will tell you is that there is still a lot of ice, as you know, below that boom.

Mr. Bukator: Not that much—and I live on the Niagara River.

Mr. Haggerty: There is more ahead of it than there is behind it.

Mr. Bukator: Anyhow I would think that the engineers would work that out. If that is the only problem, I think they can work it out. With a couple of sluiceways, I think that can be worked.

Mr. H. Smith (Ontario Hydro): Well, we have been interested in this for many years, as the member well knows; we have talked about it before. As far as the engineering feasibility is concerned, it is not established. I should think that there is probably better than a 50-50 chance that it can be done successfully, provided the ice boom control is allowed to be in long enough to deal with the problem of the late spring and provided this does not run us afoul with the navigationalists. You are aware of those problems too.

But to do a study and come up with a real hard technical feasibility assessment of this would require a very substantial effort and, as you are also aware, it is under certain legal restraints from the standpoint of the 1950 treaty as to what a diversion means. That is, in order to build a downstream plant there would have to be technically a diversion. Whether this is called a diversion in legal parlance or not, presumably it would have to be determined in courts.

So we have not undertaken to do a feasibility study because it is quite expensive and the possibilities of treaty changes are somewhat nebulous.

On your point of putting more water over the falls, every second-foot you put over the falls to use in the downstream plant might net you nine or 10 kilowatts. You could put

it through the high-head plants and it would net you 22.5 kilowatts. You do not want to put more water over the top of the falls to use in the downstream plant. It is a net loss.

If you could arrange to have the extra 50,000 second-feet that we now have in the night-time or in the winter put through in the daytime for the high-head plants, then it would be a real net gain. I would also point out that the downstream plant means essentially a lake, if you want to call it that, right up to the foot of the falls. It would look after the Maid of the Mist pool problems at the low water flow—the 50,000 second-foot flow over the falls—but it eliminates whirlpools.

Mr. Bukator: You having touched on that subject, I cannot be convinced at this time that without further study, when you are allowing 100,000 cubic feet per second to flow freely at an international boundary where both sides would benefit by it, how you are interfering with the treaty at all. I do not know where you would have a problem with the treaty or the people on the American side and the Canadian side who need power very badly.

You talk about elimination of the whirlpool. All you have to do is be down there tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock and there is no whirlpool. It is a stagnant bit of water flowing down there, about 18 to 25 feet lower than it ordinarily is when they allow that additional 50,000 cubic feet per second; then it becomes somewhat of a whirlpool.

But there is all of the water that you take off above the falls, such as—and I may name the plants for you—Sir Adam Beck No. 1 through the Chippawa Creek or the old Welland River; then the Toronto powerhouse and the Ontario powerhouse; then the Canadian Niagara powerhouse—all of this water is taken off above the falls. Now I understand—although it is another subject—that you have some kind of an agreement with Canadian Niagara because of their obsolete machinery; so you use those waters to better advantage with your equipment and then sell them back the power which they are happy to get and then they make their profit as they export the power from that water.

However, getting back to this subject, I would like to sit down with some of your experts and have them show me where you are not coming up with a net gain from what has to flow over the Horseshoe Falls through the summer months, which flows freely and gives nobody any profit at all. Now, you will eliminate—

Mr. H. Smith: I said we would be coming up with a net gain. When 50,000 second-feet runs through a downstream plant, we would be coming up with 500 megawatts.

Mr. Bukator: Now that you have touched on that subject, let me go back for a moment. When you look at 50,000 cubic feet per second being drawn into the two lakes, all they have is an 85-foot gravity head. Actually there is no force behind it at all, such as you would have in the river.

I do not want to take up too much more of your time, except to say I hope I have not offended the people I represent by having them think that I want to destroy the natural beauty of the falls. I do not. I want this 100,000 cubic feet to flow continuously if possible and let them get the benefit of that power through the daylight hours; you could still pump into those two man-made lakes from midnight until morning. It seems like a plus right across the board.

Mr. Gathercole: About eight years ago there was a suggestion that a study be undertaken to see if we could develop 500 megawatts of power below the falls, and this would have resulted in the elimination of all the whirlpools. Now this ran into very much of an avalanche—a small avalanche but still an avalanche—of criticism and it is just a matter of assessing whether this is a practical plan in light of the fact that people want to retain the whirlpools.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, I will make one more point and then I will quit. If the people of Niagara Falls were properly informed about the project that I speak of; if they must eliminate the whirlpool which is no more a whirlpool at certain times of the day and many months of the winter and the rapids that go down through the Cave of the Winds, as they call it, at the narrowest part of the Niagara River. Concession number two is the Spanish aerial car that runs around the whirlpool—it belongs to the Parks Commission. If it eliminates only two concessions and provides all of this power that I speak of, and if that water became somewhat not stagnant, far from it, but flowing a lot more smoothly, maybe that river could be used for many more concessions than the two that you would eliminate and then develop more power.

I say in this committee, Mr. Chairman, and through you to the minister, I give you all of this information for what it is worth. Maybe it is not worth too much. But it does make sense to me. Until someone can show

me where I am wrong, I am going to argue—yes, eight years ago, 10 years ago, 20 years ago I have talked about this very subject. The minister would see it immediately if he were there to look. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the time.

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that The Department of Energy and Resources Management is very concerned about major polluters and the abolition of pollution, I am wondering if Ontario Hydro by the fact that coal-fired and oil-fired plants are major polluters, whether Ontario Hydro is giving consideration to the fact that there are additional—

Mr. T. P. Reid: I cannot hear.

Mr. Yakabuski:—hydraulic sites available in certain parts of the province, and whether Ontario Hydro is, at the present time, considering further hydraulic developments on the waters remaining in the province such as the Madawaska. I understand there are a couple of sites on the Madawaska system at least and there are probably other sites in the province. Has Ontario Hydro been developing a plan in recent years to proceed with those developments knowing that hydraulically developed power is certainly not going to contribute to pollution like the oil and coal power plants?

Mr. Gathercole: We are constantly reviewing all the remaining water power of the province and also whether existing sites or plants, such as on the Madawaska or Mattagami could be expanded. The additions to the Madawaska stations carried out a few years ago illustrate what you are suggesting, but I am thinking more of the Mattagami River generating plants that would perhaps lend themselves to further expansion as peaking plants. There is some thought with this in mind. The plants have been made with that possibility ahead. But at the moment we are reviewing all these water-power sites and examining their economic position to determine whether they are viable.

Mr. Yakabuski: Would you not feel, sir, that this should have a very high priority at this time?

Mr. Gathercole: It has a high priority.

Mr. Yakabuski: I might mention to the minister, too, that in developing these hydraulic sites, we also can, by proper planning and the carrying out of these plans, develop additional recreational sites in the province with man-made lakes, etc.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 501 carried?

An hon. member: No, not yet.

Mr. Martel: A short point, Mr. Chairman, for the Philadelphia lawyers over there.

Mr. McNeil: Who is that?

Mr. Martel: The storefront lawyers. I want to put four bills on record, if I might, with your indulgence. Mr. Roger Goudreau, \$56.23; Mr. Ovid Rivard, \$49.03; Mr. Albert Savard, \$61.27, two months; and Mr. Greg Ransom, \$46.71. It is for the Philadelphia lawyers, okay?

Mr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, as a director of Hydro I must answer it. Firstly, he quoted the figure about \$90 for a bill.

Mr. Martel: You had better check the record.

Mr. Henderson: We will check the record. I heard clearly. And secondly, there is no proof of the equipment that was had by these people. There is no statement by these people. The statement is by hon. member whom we have learned not to trust.

An hon. member: Careful.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deacon. Mr. Good.

Mr. Martel: The Philadelphia lawyers over there!

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Mr. Chairman, under vote 501 here, "Disbursements loaned to Hydro-Electric Power Commission re Pickering nuclear power generating station."

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Good: Regarding the loan for the Pickering nuclear hydro generating station, \$12 million; is this, in fact, the same loan shown under details of non-budgetary transactions in the budget for \$12 million regarding the nuclear power generating station? Why would it be shown under non-budgetary transactions in the Treasurer's budget and in these estimates, or are they two different \$12 million loans?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You would have to explain the one you are talking about—the second one.

Mr. Good: I am talking about the one in your budget. It is the first one, \$12 million for that. Page 105 of the Treasurer's budget shows nuclear power generating station, a

\$12 million loan. But this is a non-budgetary loan from the government for nuclear power development, which means it is coming out of non-budgetary moneys, such as Canada Pension funds or teachers' superannuation fund money, and not out of the budget. What I am asking is are there two \$12 million loans from this government for the development of nuclear power in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you aware of that? The hon. member says that in the Treasurer's budget there is a non-budgetary item of \$12 million.

Mr. Banks: I think it is an internal matter, Mr. Kerr. There is just \$12 million for one item.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is one and the same item.

Mr. Good: It is one and the same item?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is based on, for example, the interim 1970-1971; the \$23,800,000 you see.

Mr. Good: That is 1970-1971?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is our information.

Mr. Good: For 1971-1972 they show another \$12 million?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Good: But then you also show it in your budget as \$12 million.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because that is money that we will get back as a result of the use and sale of hydro.

Mr. Good: Right. Now to continue this. Why does Hydro borrow money from the government of Ontario, \$12 million for a nuclear development, instead of using the normal money market channels?

Mr. Boyer: This has been debated so often.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why not?

Mr. Good: I ask you why.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, why not? Why should the government of Ontario not lend money to Hydro?

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Would Hydro borrow on the same basis itself, would you say?

Mr. Good: This is what I am saying. I understand that Hydro has the government of Ontario to back its borrowings when it goes to the money market. Why, in fact, do they get the actual money from the Ontario government? Is it the fact that the government has so much non-budgetary revenue coming in or that they have surplus funds to lend to Hydro or is this a top priority?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, this is a specific item, Mr. Chairman, involving three parties. There is the Ontario government, the Ontario Hydro and AECL. I believe that Ontario Hydro is involved, or the Ontario government is involved, in assisting in the financing of the first two units. Is that not correct?

Mr. Gathercole: There is a limit.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. So it is just a matter of I suppose a particular project really, rather than an overall policy because, really, I suppose of the—

Mr. Gathercole: On the initial estimates the proposition worked out to 27 per cent. Ontario Hydro puts an amount into the cost of the first two units in Pickering equivalent to the capital cost of the first two units at the Lambton conventional generating station. But it is a one-shot proposition.

Mr. T. P. Reid: They could take up the cost for the third and fourth one when it is completed?

Mr. Gathercole: Ontario Hydro bears the whole cost of these last two units.

Mr. Good: And this is recoverable from Hydro to the government?

Mr. Gathercole: From the revenue obtained from the sale of power. For instance number one unit is now producing power—part of the revenue goes against the operative cost and ultimately part of it goes to retire the loans.

Mr. Good: It is the practice of Hydro to always go to the government to borrow money, rather than to the money market? Do you ask if they have any money or what is your policy?

Mr. Gathercole: This is the exception.

Mr. Good: Well, there are exceptions every year then. You may have put \$90 million into nuclear development from the Ontario government. In the last five years they have put \$90 million into nuclear power development in Ontario.

Mr. Gathercole: The project has been under construction for several years, and therefore requires an appropriation each year and probably the government of Ontario, to fill its obligation under this agreement, to participate in this initial project which was the first two units in Pickering—

Mr. Good: In general terms, Mr. Chairman, this money is basically from the same source as money that is used for school construction and hospital construction and things like the Ontario Water Resources Commission for construction of sewer and water works. It is from the same source of funds that the government uses money. Now, generally speaking, are the terms under which you borrow money from the Ontario government better or more expensive than the terms under which you would borrow on the regular money market?

Mr. Banks: We credit the Ontario government's account at the loan borrowing rate.

Mr. Good: In other words, we are lending it at cost?

Mr. Gathercole: Right. We are obtaining it at cost and it will be repaid out of the revenue realized from the production of power. Its full cost can be recovered in time.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 501 carried? Mr. Deacon.

Mr. Deacon: Yes, there is a question I asked and I have not got the answer to it yet. What does a pound of steam or a ton of steam, whichever way you measure it, cost from the Hearn Plant?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Has anybody got that?

Mr. Deacon: I asked especially for the Hearn Plant last year and I never got an answer to it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is that a ton that is contained in the encasement or just a ton that goes up the stack?

Mr. Deacon: The ton that is available for delivering to the generator or the turbine.

I wanted to find out what the cost was because I want to work out what we could afford to pay Toronto, for example, for surplus steam from the Commissioner Street plant, if it was converted to utilization of waste heat to get the stack temperatures down in that plant.

One of the real problems in converting that plant to obtain better purification or

elimination of the precipitate is to get the stack temperatures down and to therefore have the waste heat utilized. With the Commissioner Street plant being only a very short distance from the Hearn plant, it would seem sensible for the Hearn plant to pay the same amount for the varying amounts of steam that are available.

Since the Hearn plant requirements are so huge, in comparison with the small amount of steam produced there, any agreement that Ontario Hydro would make for the purchase of that steam would certainly materially affect the economics of the incinerator and the conversion they make there. I would be interested to find out what Hydro is paying now—what it is costing them to produce this steam, and what the problems would be in utilizing the waste heat from the Commissioner Street plant?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I wonder if you can tell that from the cost of producing power, can you?

Mr. H. Smith: We can say that fueling costs at Hearn when the gas-coal system goes into operation will be something in the neighbourhood of 50 cents for every million Btu. Is that the question you wanted answered?

Mr. Deacon: No, your method of producing electricity is to produce steam which turn turbines to generate, is that not right?

Mr. H. Smith: Yes, but how do you cost the steam? Are you talking about getting steam from our plant?

Mr. Deacon: To get steam out of your fossil fuels, what is the cost of that steam you are using in that turbine? In other words, how much could you afford to pay the Commissioner Street plant for steam and not be losing any money?

Mr. H. Smith: Something like \$1 per million Btu.

Mr. Deacon: One dollar a million Btu?

Mr. H. Smith: But that steam would have to be at 1,800 pounds pressure when it is released, or it is no good to us at all.

At the time Toronto Hydro was talking about building the steam plant, we examined with them the possibility of bleeding it and delivering it for that purpose, bleeding it and delivering it, and the cost of transmission of the steam was completely out of all proportion.

Mr. Deacon: Yes, I am talking about the Commissioner Street plant, which is just a short distance from your Hearn plant. The problem they have is that their production is quite irregular and, of course, they would not be able to give you a set amount every day at a certain time because their production is irregular. But your total volume is so great, in comparison with the small irregularities they produce, I would not think it would affect your economics very greatly as long as they could supply you, at \$1 per million Btu, 1,800-pound pressure steam at 1,000 degrees.

Mr. H. Smith: When I gave you that figure I was just doubling the fuel cost to allow for the capital equipment for producing the steam. When somebody says "how much is a pound of steam worth?" you have to include the fixed costs on capital. But in the situation you are quoting I think the only thing we would be interested in is buying at an incremental fuelling cost, which would be around 50-odd cents, because our plant is already there.

Vote 501 agreed to.

On vote 502. Carried?

Mr. T. P. Reid: No, nice try.

Mr. Chairman, I am going to leave a greater part of this to my colleagues, but I would like to bring a matter to the attention of the minister. It is in regard to my own riding and it involves the Rainy River, which of course, runs between Fort Frances and Lake of the Woods and there is no attempt at the moment to do anything with it, other than let it run. It is eroding its banks on the way down to Lake of the Woods and the municipalities that are located along its banks are small, their budgets are small, and they are not able to undertake any kind of management of the river itself nor even to protect the banks of the river to prevent erosion of the land which is located within their municipality.

It is my understanding that The Conservation Authorities Act provides a 50 per cent grant to any of the conservation authorities, but even with two or three municipalities in this area it is impossible for them to raise any significant amount of money to make a project worth while.

Various reports, including the last report of the International Joint Commission of April, 1970, on the Rainy River and recreation and tourist studies indicate that the Rainy River has a high recreation potential as well

as being a beautiful river. It will be even better once the pollution in it is cleaned up.

I wonder if there is any way in which the municipalities located along some 50 miles of the river can avail themselves of the expertise or finances under this vote to not only protect themselves from the unbridled river, but to develop it as a conservation authority area?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, as the hon. member knows, to form an authority there has to be an agreement by at least two municipalities to set up an authority within a watershed. I would assume that in the Rainy River it would involve probably at least two municipalities and really that is the only way that these communities could take advantage of the—

Mr. T. P. Reid: They would have to put up 50 per cent? They would have to match—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It depends on what the project is. If it is a dam or reservoir type of thing it could go to 75 per cent.

If it is a small authority—not too wealthy an authority—with a big budget, and the levy is such that to acquire sufficient funds to do certain things would be prohibitive for the inhabitants of that area, there is a formula which affects that 50 per cent. It could go as high as 65 and 70 per cent, you see, depending on the size of this municipality and, as I say again, depending on the particular works. But outside of that there would have to be at least this degree of agreement.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right, fine.

Mr. Burr: In the Speech from the Throne there is reference to SWEEP planting trees and maintaining parks. What work will they do in parks which would not be done otherwise or who would normally do this work?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think, Mr. Chairman, that it is the intention of this particular programme to work within the watershed of an authority, not within a municipal park—

Mr. Burr: Nor a provincial park?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. They work strictly within the watershed and it involves cleaning up river basins, the banks, planting trees, certain construction work, fences—things like this are involved. Some of these authorities have a certain amount of wildlife and livestock and painting and such things.

Mr. Burr: As I ride the CNR and the CPR, I see enough litter to keep a small army at work all summer. But whose lands are they going to clean up? Are these public lands, or are they private lands?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Public lands.

Mr. Burr: They are all going to be public lands? Are these students going to be kept in camps or are they going to work from their homes, or how is it arranged?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mostly, the idea is for each authority to hire about 40 to 45 students, depending on the size of the authority, to get a complement of 1,000, as far as our programme is concerned; and Lands and Forests will also be hiring 1,000.

Mr. Burr: Will they be able to live at home?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The idea is to hire people from within the authority; that is right from within the area, the watershed.

Mr. Burr: You may have to bus them out to work.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There will be some transportation required, there is no question about that; but we think that certainly most of them—and I am talking about well over 90 per cent—will be living at home.

Mr. Burr: Is there an age limit for these people?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No there is not—as long as you are in school.

Mr. Burr: Okay, thank you. Could you clarify for me which parks are under Lands and Forests and which are under the jurisdiction of your department? Or is there some shared responsibility?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Really, we have not any parks under our department, except those areas that are within conservation authority. We give a grant, under The Parks Assistance Act, of up to 50 per cent for municipal parks.

Mr. Burr: It is just the grant that you are involved with?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right, that is all.

Mr. Burr: Now for Peach Island. Would your people give the grant for that? It is the Lands and Forests people who are down talking about it, but would the grant come from you? It is part of the city of Windsor.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That would be under The Parks Assistance Act, assuming that the city of Windsor buys the island.

Mr. Burr: The city of Windsor?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, but if it is under a conservation authority, the authority would—

Mr. Burr: We do not have one yet?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No.

Mr. Burr: One more question, and then I will be through. Has the provincial government the power to establish a conservation authority? I assume that they probably would not want to do so without consultation, but has the government the power to do it without?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, the Act provides that at least two municipalities must join together to form an authority.

Mr. Burr: But if two municipalities say they want it, can you then order it? I mean there might be five or 10 municipalities.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We would call a meeting and find out what other municipalities are joining and would be included in the watershed—and would be interested in being part of the authority. But we have authorities that involve just two municipalities.

Mr. Burr: Well the question that I have been asked, and one somebody wants answered, is: have you the power to establish a conservation authority, provided you have two communities?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand you have to have a majority vote of the eligible municipalities.

Mr. Burr: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Yakabuski.

Mr. Yakabuski: One question Mr. Chairman. Say a municipality wants to establish a municipal park, as the member mentioned. Is it a requirement that that municipality must acquire the land; did you mention that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No.

Mr. Yakabuski: Or is there assistance on that purchase also?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is assistance on any land, any areas, that an authority acquires. There is assistance of a minimum of 50 per cent, but there is no onus that I know of to immediately acquire land.

Mr. Yakabuski: I was speaking of small municipal parks in general. There is assistance, but this is on the purchase of land too, is it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, at least 50 per cent.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ruston.

Mr. Ruston: I want to get to a couple of items on the Lower Thames Conservation Authority. I went through it in detail last year and I certainly do not want to repeat any of that, and do not intend to.

One thing on the erosion of the banks, which is a real problem from Chatham on into Lake St. Clair. I went into complete detail previously and some of the local municipalities have been doing some work on this, but they find it very costly to a municipality that abuts on to the river.

I see by a report that was made by the James F. MacLaren Company in 1966, suggested \$600,000 in high priority erosion control jobs in 1968 and another \$600,000 in 1969 and \$600,000 in 1970; but up to now, none of it has been done, to speak of.

In 1968 there was a major flood in a number of areas around Chatham-Wallaceburg and on the lower Thames. We have been fortunate in the last two years not to have any. I am hoping that there would be funds available to protect this land. It is productive land and very good land probably, but the ability of the people in that area to pay for these banks is pretty nearly impossible, especially now. For a while we were working under the two-thirds grant but now I think it is only one-third for municipal drainage, under which it is classified.

The cause of some of the erosion is probably a number of items, but a number of people feel that one of the major causes is the number of pleasure boats going up into Chatham and the waves from them. Some people say they should have a speed limit but, looking at it very closely—and I have been in boats looking it over, taking pictures and so forth—I think that rather than a speed limit on such a place, we do not need a speed limit; what we need is a wave control limit. Probably we need markers in the river to designate the height of wave that would be allowed and have some enforcement of it.

The problem is to find someone to enforce it. The Provincial Police seem to be understaffed or reluctant to go in and try to enforce these. They say they do not have any authority.

The federal officials have abandoned it pretty well, since the waterway is not used for shipping purposes. It is one of those things that is left to everyone and no one does. Yet it is under the conservation authority. It seems to me that there should be some policing done of wave height. Having had people in the area looking it over with me, I feel that the only way to really control waves would be to have some policing.

Instead of a speed limit, the height of the waves from a boat should be limited by measurements put in the river in different locations. This seems to me a much more sensible idea than the speed limit, because some boats run 10 miles an hour and others can run 20 and maybe one going 20 will not necessarily put up more waves, depending on the size of the boat and how far she is down in the water.

That is just one thing that is really a problem; it borders on my riding, and it is an area that I think we should protect. I think that it is a very important area to western Ontario and, as you are probably aware now, there is a lighthouse area at the end of the Thames that the local conservation authority is taking over and maybe rebuilding or something for posterity's sake.

Has the government been giving any consideration to bank control and so forth, or any increased funds, Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister? I am sure the minister is aware of this particular area. He may have other ones that are similar, but probably this one is a little different than most areas due to the fact that it is coming right out of Lake St. Clair, which is highly used by boats from the United States as well as Canada. Has the minister got anything that might help us there?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, as the hon. member mentioned, this was discussed last year. It is, as he indicated, a very expensive programme and it cannot be done on the basis of a single property or properties anywhere along the river. It has to be pretty well a continuous programme for diking or some sort of rock fill wall that will prevent this erosion of the banks along the river.

As the hon. member mentioned, a lot of this is from boats. It is from waves and disturbance of the river caused by boat traffic. We were attempting to police that, and I think the government has solved that for this summer.

Mr. Ruston: How?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the OPP is going to have jurisdiction in there, so that this cause may be minimized now. I believe there was a consultant's report just a few years ago. I am not sure if the authority commissioned that report or not, but it was something like \$9 million. Is that right?

Mr. Ruston: Seven million dollars. The consultant's report came out in 1967.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: For a 10-year programme, I believe it was.

Mr. Ruston: Yes, that is right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: So it is a matter to know where—

Mr. Ruston: Find it then.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —and how that is going to be spent. Whether it is going to be a sort of charge as a local improvement on some of the property owners, which may make it too prohibitive, particularly if they have a lot of frontage on the river; whether it would be a shared costing with the local authorities; whether we should involve the federal government because it is really still under its jurisdiction, as far as navigation is concerned and the cause was contributed by navigation.

I do not know, but I agree with the hon. member that there is a problem there. I do not think it can come within the terms of The Drainage Act. I do not think we are able to stretch that enough to assist the people in the hon. member's area because of the erosion. But, it seems to me a normal responsibility or a normal project that should be taken on by the authority.

The authority is involved in dam construction. It is involved in flood-plain lands. It is involved in certain types of erosion within watersheds. I think it is time, possibly, that a submission should be made to the Treasurer and to the government as a whole as to policy resulting from erosion along these waterways. I do not know how common this is, or how prevalent in other areas of the province or not. If it is not, all the better. It means that our costs will not be multiplied to this extent.

Mr. Ruston: Right. Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But the people who own that land along there cannot fence it. They are losing a certain amount continuously every year. I am not exactly sure how it should be financed but I feel the same way as I did last year, that there should be some method by which we can halt this erosion.

Mr. Ruston: I would think that one method of financing would probably have to be that if the water is coming all the way from London, then you are going to have to spread some of the cost over the whole conservation area, the upper and lower both. And the province—since it now keeps all the gas tax from pleasure boats—probably should have some funds available for such things as this, and if it still is a navigable water course, then of course we should involve the federal government.

I am not sure that we can classify it as a navigable water course since it is not used for public shipping. It is only used for pleasure. But it seems to me that if we could spread it over the areas that I mentioned, there would be a much better chance of having it done because some of the bank control was done on a local basis under The Drainage Act, which is very difficult to do, and I am sure you are aware of that.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, I just want to bring up a point at the moment, and it is not to be opposed to anybody. What is our adjournment time? Is it 10:15? Is that what it was?

Mr. Chairman: No, 10:30.

Mr. Henderson: I thought the committee adjourned at 10:15?

Mr. Gaunt: No, readjourn.

Mr. Henderson: No, no. That was 10:30 was it?

An hon. member: In my understanding it was 10:30.

Mr. Henderson: I thought it was 10:15, that was all.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, is it a problem that unskilled labour such as SWEEP could be involved in in the following year? Is it too technical? Is it too difficult for them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think it would involve a lot of heavy equipment and a lot of skilled labour.

Mr. Burr: Skilled? Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deacon.

Mr. Deacon: I want to ask if any steps have been taken to strengthen the position of conservation areas and any other groups that want to develop footpaths, rights of

way. Has the department made any progress in the development of possible legislation, or tax incentives to those who provide right of way after they enter into agreements for such rights of way?

One of the groups that has been coming to The Department of Municipal Affairs for assistance in alleviation of their tax load, are golf courses, and it seems to me that legislation which is designed perhaps to give an incentive to owners to make available rights of way through their properties, would be a great help to conservation authorities. It would help link up land in these river valleys. We have some lovely areas that are isolated one from another, and that would provide very pleasant walks for the public, so that they would not have to be confined to the dusty dirty roads.

Has the minister or the department made any study of that matter? I raised it a couple of years ago in the public accounts committee, and I wonder if any progress has been made on the subject.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member knows, we are involved in this now, as a result of the Gertler report dealing with the Niagara Escarpment. We are concerned with easements over the Bruce Trail, and are attempting to obtain these easements wherever possible on a voluntary basis from the owners; and of course, the Bruce Trail people are concerned as well.

Mr. Deacon: I realize that, but that is free.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I know it is not entirely what the hon. member is saying, but we have had proposals for footpaths through conservation areas and joining other property, from the authority. The conservation authorities have attempted, wherever possible, to have walkways to the edge of authority lands, where they can be continued on through the same type of environment, through a golf course, shall we say, or something like that. There has been no policy decision on subsidizing private groups who might want to establish the continuation of a public footpath or walkway. We do not have any policy on that.

Mr. Deacon: Well, what I am talking about, Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, is the type of programme that they have in Switzerland, and in some other countries, where very extensive footpath arrangements have been established over the years. But, in talking to the owners, they said they

get a good tax rebate on the maintenance of a footpath.

They enter into a long-range agreement—it is for many years, so it is clearly a public right—and after the right of way has been there for a long while, of course, it is very hard for them to close it off. But, it is worth their while to keep these maintained and open because there is a tax incentive offered them to do so.

I was quite astonished at the extent of the paths and trails through privately owned land. In asking the owners about it they said that they were given quite a good break if they maintained the stiles and the footpath. It was not something done by a trail association; it was an incentive built into the municipal laws in the country.

I feel that this is something we should look into, because we have for example the Bruce Trail—450 miles of trail to expropriate which will be a pretty sizable bill. But if we can give an incentive to the owners, by legislation of some sort where they have a good tax break, to enter into an agreement to maintain rights of way and keep them open to the public, then it would perhaps be a much less costly, and a more attractive means, of doing it.

I happen to live in a river valley and I know that I myself, and a lot of my neighbours in Rouge Valley, would be very interested in having a public footpath that was open to the public from dawn to dusk, where they could enjoy the area. Most of the public that does use these trails—especially in the Bruce Trail where there is a tremendous drive made to keep the trail clean—the public does not bother the owners and I would think that this would be something that could be quite readily encouraged.

I would ask the minister to have a study made of the possible legislation and incentives that he might bring in.

The other thing that I wanted to ask about was details of the arrangements in this—did the minister want to say something further on this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might just say that here might be as good a time as any to get the commercial in. I do not think too many people realize just how much land our conservation authorities acquire every year—bit by bit—including the 37 authorities. I see where last year we acquired a total of about 6,300 acres. That is quite a bit of land and if you do that on an annual basis you can imagine how much public land area—you can

call it park area or recreation area—that is available for public use.

So certainly where there is necessity of joining any area—such as we are talking about with the Niagara Escarpment where, as you say, the cost would be prohibitive to buy the whole thing—but it order to connect these public areas I can see, really, an immediate policy—I agree with that—there should be some form either to buy the easement or rent the easement or give the owners some tax benefit, whichever would be the attractive to him.

I think it would be better to have it under our control so that there would be no question of it being cut off because somebody rode a snowmobile through there and did not have his muffler on or something. And I do not mean the wool one around his face. I mean the thing that is on the engine.

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that if you use a tax incentive method where you have a definite agreement you also do not have to worry about the maintenance of these footpaths which, in themselves, is quite a responsibility for the conservation areas to assume.

When you buy this 6,300 acres there is a certain responsibility then assumed by the conservation area for that land, and that in itself is quite a burden and we certainly want to have ample space for recreation purposes.

What I am talking about here though is a way of greatly increasing the scope of our operations without having the burden of the maintenance attached to it and on a basis where the public can work jointly with the private sector, or private individuals, on a long-term basis, that there would not be any of the uncertainty now prevailing in the Bruce Trail situation. I would like to see something done in this connection and would ask the minister to have a report, if possible, prepared on some scheme.

Another area that I would be interested in finding out are the details under which the McMichael conservation area is operated. That matter has been, as the minister knows, the source of a little problem out in Kleinburg recently through a misunderstanding between Mr. McMichael and some of the local people. The criticism I have had is that it now being a public park, what sort of methods of control are there of the budget and the whole operation? What is the system of the province assisting that and whose responsibility for reviewing expenditures be-

fore they are made? What authority does the minister exercise through his department over that operation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, there is a committee set up of five members which includes Mr. and Mrs. McMichael. Then there are two Crown appointees, who are presently Mrs. Edna Gardner of the Metropolitan Toronto Regional Conservation Authority, and David Bernstein of the Attorney General's department, and a chairman appointed by these four, Mr. R. E. Dowsett, who exercise the observations and powers within the agreement that is in existence with respect to the McMichael collection of art and the operation of that museum.

Mr. Deacon: Does your committee receive a copy of the minutes of the meetings of that board, and does that board have responsibility for more than the art? To what extent does it have jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I do not believe so. They submit their programme to us but I do not believe we receive a regular copy of the minutes on a regular basis as a result of meetings that might be held there.

Mr. Deacon: Do I understand that Mr. McMichael himself makes a substantial contribution to the budget each year, last year I think perhaps in the order of \$50,000?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What was that?

Mr. Deacon: Do I understand that Mr. McMichael makes a substantial contribution to the operation himself as well as the government? What is the extent of our contribution in addition to what is shown here? Is the budget more than the \$209,000 that is shown here? Do you have a breakdown of the budget on that operation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, as the figures would indicate there is a provincial grant which amounted to \$50,000. So what does the hon. member want to know?

Mr. Deacon: The breakdown of the—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: To answer your question, I am not aware of any contribution that is made personally.

Mr. Deacon: Toward the operation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Toward the operation. We have never been aware of this. There may be contributions in the way of part of the

collection. I know that there are private individuals, of course, who make quite substantial contributions.

Mr. Deacon: Do you have a breakdown of the operating statement of the foundation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, we could supply the hon. member with a detailed copy of the budget.

Mr. Deacon: I would appreciate getting a statement. And when they make their budget up, do they provide you with how they are exactly going to spend the money at all?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, they make a detailed estimate of expenses to us, which they has to be approved by Treasury.

Mr. Deacon: What I am asking is, some people were quite concerned, for example, that a very substantial expenditure appears to have been made on a culvert for moving a tractor from one side of where they looked after grass to another and they asked me to inquire on what basis an expenditure which would appear to be in the order of at least \$1,000 be made for moving a tractor over to maintain one part of the property? I did not know what extent any programmes of development were—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Would this have something to do with the parking space?

Mr. Deacon: Yes. Well actually it was not parking space, because after the meetings that a representative of your branch and I had out there it was agreed that we would not be doing it for the parking space. The only construction of the culvert at this time would involve getting a tractor from one part to the other. But it seemed like a very lavish expenditure.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: One thousand dollars? Really? It would be better to have put a crane down there or something would it not?

Mr. Burr: I think the main concern the public has in that area is that there is not some board, which it does need, and which is accountable to the branch for expenditures in that area. I think they appreciate the very fine project that Mr. McMichael and his wife have contributed to the province, but they want to be sure there is public surveillance and control over the expenditures of the province's budget.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the hon. member is right. I think we can agree that there should be—one can use the phrase tighter control—or at least more liaison. And we should be aware, on a continuing, regular basis, of what these expenditures are. I think that although they have a budget that is approved like any other department—the estimates are submitted at a certain time each year and approved—and I think that certain expenditures, before they are made should be approved.

Mr. Deacon: One other point in connection with that, Mr. Minister—the hour is 10.30 p.m. Perhaps I could bring it up at the next meeting.

Mr. Chairman: Would you like to continue? The minister would like to carry this vote.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Can we carry this vote?

Mr. Haggerty: No.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Have you got a lot to say?

Mr. Chairman: I move that we adjourn until tomorrow afternoon.

The committee adjourned at 10.35 o'clock, p.m.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, May 4, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1971

The committee met at 3:25 o'clock, p.m. in committee room No. 1; Mr. M. Hamilton in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

(continued)

On vote 502:

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, the estimates of The Department of Energy and Resources Management. Just before the meeting commences I have a note here from Peter Brannan, chief of Hansard reporting service, in which he says:

We are having great difficulty providing an adequate report of the proceedings of the supply committee. Many of the replies, particularly of the departmental officials, are not being picked up on the tape and I wonder if you would co-operate with us by asking them to endeavour to speak into a microphone at all times. If there is any difficulty with regard to the location of the microphones, perhaps you could let me know, so that we could make some rearrangement of the seating or microphone locations. I would much appreciate your assistance in resolving this problem.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): He is just being prudent, that is all.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 502 carried?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, are conservation authorities under this vote?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister what his department is doing to encourage the county of Essex to join a conservation authority so that you could have the authorities fairly well across the Province of Ontario? I understand it is one of the few remaining areas that does not have a conservation authority.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have conducted a survey, what we call a preliminary reconnaissance of the proposed watershed; this was at the request of the city of Windsor. This has been completed. For a while it appeared that the county was anxious to enter into an agreement to establish an authority and Windsor apparently was reluctant until it had some type of a reconnaissance to indicate what benefits would accrue to that watershed in the event an authority was formed.

It is my impression, talking to people in that area, that the officials of the city of Windsor were satisfied with the reconnaissance and could see some benefit accruing to the city as part of an authority. As the hon. member knows, it takes at least two municipalities to form an authority. We cannot force an authority on people. It is my understanding now that because of the representation the city would have on the authority, the county is a little leery about establishing one.

I think it is a matter of trying to get some form of agreement or consensus from both municipalities or both the areas so that we can go ahead and an authority can be formed under the Act. One of the problems apparently, as I mentioned or have mentioned, is the representation the city of Windsor would have because of its population. Of course, the county feels the representation might be too great in relation to other members.

I would think it is possible, as we did in Hamilton, that it does not have to be strictly "rep. by pop." There can be some consideration for the land area or the benefitting area that would be part of the authority. This is what happened as far as the Hamilton region conservation authority was concerned and this seems to have worked out quite well. There has not been any problem between the city and the other members in that authority.

Mr. B. Newman: I would suggest to the hon. minister that he really should come to some type of compromise. Originally, the city refused to go into the authority because they were going to pay 69 per cent of the funds and have only four out of 26 of the

representation. Since then, I understand, it has changed and now the county is a little leery, or some of the municipalities in the county are a bit leery of joining a conservation authority.

I do not think the department has really done the type of selling job it could have to point out the benefits that could be derived from such an authority.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I think we have. I think we have done everything possible. Certainly, there is no advantage in the conservation branch or my department forcing an authority on people, or talking people into forming an authority, because there has to be an enthusiasm, there has to be a willingness, by the local people and by the local council. This involves, as the hon. member knows, a taxation. It involves a levy on the people in that area and it involves some thought in planning, in carrying out the operation of the authority in relation to various projects.

So you can only go so far in talking to people or trying to convince people or twisting arms. We do not mind meeting and discussing the advantages of having an authority. We will explain the Act to them; we can point out the benefits that we feel could accrue to that area.

The reconnaissance that I have mentioned is something which has never been done before. This was a precedent, this was something that was established for the area alone. Usually the authorities—I believe this is right—form the authority and then we do these surveys and compile these reports.

I am not exactly sure, Mr. Chairman—the population of Windsor, I think it is around a quarter of a million, is it not?

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: So they would have around five representatives.

Mr. B. Newman: Out of how many? 26?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I do not think there would be—

Mr. B. Newman: Well, the previous time the minister had one of the gentleman of the department into the county area to talk on a conservation authority, I attended the meeting and he submitted to everyone these figures showing the number of representations there would be from the various municipalities. If my memory serves me right, there were going to be four from the city of Windsor at that

time. Windsor was going to provide 69 per cent of the funds to the authority, and the other 22 were going to come from all of the municipalities in the county system.

That is beside the point now, Mr. Chairman. I can see that the minister tried to do something there, but I do not mean to force an authority upon them but sell it in such a manner that it is appealing to the municipalities in the county of Essex.

Because if we do develop an authority there, I can foresee the day when we are going to take over the islands in the Detroit River that can be used for some type of park purposes. And there are enough islands in there, so let us keep them Canadian, or bring them back to Canada, rather than have our American friends slowly take them over and develop them as they see fit, instead of developing them for the benefit and the use of Essex county, Ontario and Canadian residents.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It would be a great place for a rock festival, would it not?

Mr. B. Newman: Provided you discontinue the ferry boat service after you get them there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We could get one of Farley Mowat's boats.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 502 carried?

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Well Mr. Chairman, I want to make some comments with respect to conservation authorities. My comments are not going to be made in the direction I gather the minister would think, in view of our most recent meeting.

I just want to talk from the point of view of seeing whether in fact the department could possibly, through the conservation branch, set up what I might term an emergency purchasing fund. I know the Saugeen Conservation Authority, which embraces part of my area—the Maitland Valley embraces the other part—is very active, it is a very good authority.

A person on that authority has mentioned to me that from time to time they have properties which become available to them and which would make ideal conservation areas, either parks or what have you. But the thing is that sometimes these properties are held for generations and it is pretty apparent that the conservation authority would like to get hold of them; they would make an ideal park or conservation area.

I think there was a very recent case where property did become available in that area

and the proposals were sent down here to the department in Toronto. As I understand the machinery and red tape, the proposal has to be sent down here, it has to be approved, and then the authority goes back and says: "Okay, we can make you an offer to purchase." In the meantime, it could very well be—and it almost happened in this most recent case—that the vendor, the seller, decided that this was going to take too long. He thought he would make a quick sale, get his money, get the matter straightened up and get the whole deal consummated in a matter of a week or two.

So the conservation authority saw that this was going to happen. He was an old gentleman, and they decided the only way in which they were going to guarantee themselves the property was for the conservation authority members themselves to put up the money, because they were pretty sure the department would approve it, it was just a matter of time. That is precisely what they did. They moved in, bought the property with their money and then eventually the approval to purchase the property came through from the department.

My point is simply this: that had those members of the conservation authority not been so public-minded as to put up their own money, that property would have been lost. I am wondering if, in fact, there has been any thought given to some type of emergency purchasing fund whereby this type of thing would not happen.

My point Mr. Chairman, is simply this: in some of these cases things happen very quickly; the sale can be completed quickly by another party. In this case there was an American after the property. He was quite prepared to overbid the conservation authority, and did, but the seller involved said: "Well, no, I will keep it, I will sell it to the authority if I can get my money quickly."

Now, I am wondering if this is feasible. I would like to have the minister's views on it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, dealing with this specific project, based on what the hon. member has said, there is no reason why that authority could not have obtained an option first, without the approval of the branch, subject to branch approval or departmental approval. That can be done immediately.

Mr. Gaunt: Just excuse me on that point. They tried to get an option, but the gentleman involved said: "No, I am not interested in an option, I want to get rid of the property

quickly, and if you can buy the property at my price—and it was cheap, mind you, he was prepared to sell it reasonably cheap—"I want to get my money, I want to get out of here, I do not want to be bothered with any of these legal entanglements, I do not want to go to a lawyer. I just want to sell and get out."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: He did not want to go to a lawyer?

Mr. Gaunt: Well, he did not want to have anything to do with a lawyer. I think he had had some bad experience.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is that near Sarnia? Anywhere near there?

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): They are getting nasty.

Mr. Gaunt: No, it is not. I understand he had some bad experiences down there, too.

Anyway, this was the point, he did not want to be bothered with this. He was an old gentleman approaching his 80s and he just did not want to be bothered. So I come back to my original point: if these people had not been public-minded citizens the property would have been lost.

The Americans seem to smell out these properties, they have very good noses for this kind of thing and this chap moved right in and he was prepared to offer the seller almost twice as much as the conservation authority was going to offer. Luckily enough, the conservation authority got it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In most cases, I think the member will agree, there is usually an option or an offer to purchase, particularly if it involves any sizeable acreage and it requires searching of title and things like that. I am thinking of an example with the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority at Fifty Mile Point, where they just bought that 140-acre parcel on Lake Ontario. The authority did all the dickering, signed an option with the owner and then got our approval and the matter was finalized.

I do not think there is that much delay. I think the average is about two weeks from the time an authority applies to us for approval to a project.

The reason we are there, of course, is because we are paying at least 50 per cent on these land purchases, so we should look at it as well. Then really, by the time it is approved by the branch and I sign the necessary approvals it should not be any more than two weeks, then the deal can be finalized.

In a situation like this it would have been rather awkward if we did not finally approve. I think you will agree—

Mr. Gaunt: It would have been.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The authority would have probably had to pay for it entirely on its own.

By having an emergency purchasing fund there would still have to be some consideration by the branch as well as the authority. I do not know how much time we can save, where you have the rather rare situation like this where a man says: "Look, I want my money tomorrow. You can have it or else I will sell it to somebody else."

Even with this fund I think you would have to have some proper procedure to go through to make sure that the land is appraised and that the man that wants to sell it owns it, and that type of procedure.

I cannot see where under normal circumstances there should be too much delay.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, if I may just make another comment directed toward the minister. You do not see this as a general problem; this is pretty isolated?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Your situation was rather a unique situation. I am sure, really, where you have a situation like that, if the authority or the chairman of the authority or the resource manager, whoever happens to be available at the local authority level, contacted our branch director, that we can—in a situation like that—sort of pull out all stops to make sure that the appraisal is done in a hurry, even if it is done at the local level, and there is not too much unnecessary delay.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister what authority would the conservation authority have concerning purchasing properties in an international waterway? Would they have that authority?

Mr. Bullbrook: You should have that answer right at your fingertips.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I can quote Judge Felix Frankfurter who said —

Mr. T. P. Reid: A great fellow.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —in Supreme Court back in 1954—

Mr. Bullbrook: Goodness gracious, he has it at his fingertips.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): On his tongue tip.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. T. P. Reid: He has a lot of quotes in a little black book.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: RSNY. No, seriously, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

An hon. member: I thought you were serious.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, there could be some problems. The only thing is if you are referring to your Windsor situation again—

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —I think, for example, Peach Island is within the Ontario boundary.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Sandwich-Riverside.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, so that although the Detroit River, or the St. Clair River, are international waterways, that land is in Ontario, so there is no problem.

Mr. B. Newman: How about the land like Fighting Island now, that is owned by the BASF Industries of Germany, through Wyandotte Chemical? It is sort of astride the international boundary—a Canadian island I understand. Or if it is not astride it, it is more in Canada than the US. Would the authority have a right to purchase or expropriate that type of property?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, if that property is within Ontario.

Mr. B. Newman: It must be within the bounds of the province.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: How about marshlands in the area? Could the authority expropriate marshland at present owned by Americans in Essex County who are barring Canadian residents from hunting on these marshlands?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it would be the same situation. But, as you know, under our new Expropriations Act, the procedure is a little more cumbersome now and one of the things that the authority would have to do would be show a need for that land. And I would assume that would include being within the watershed and being a logical part of their conservation programme.

If it is in Ontario, regardless of who owns it, outside of the possibility of another Crown agency, I do not think there is any problem.

Mr. B. Newman: Sooner or later there will be an authority in the county of Essex. Is the minister prepared at this time, through you, Mr. Chairman, to purchase lands, properties in the county for future use and development and then sell them back to the conservation authority, to prevent them from falling into the hands of others, or likewise prevent them from being developed in a manner in which we would prefer not to see them developed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have not got that authority under The Conservation Authorities Act, no. There may be some other way. Maybe, for example, it can be done under our parks programme. I would think the municipality might be able to do it.

Mr. B. Newman: Where do the municipalities find the funds?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There would be a grant from here under our parks programme, if it could be qualified as a park.

Mr. B. Newman: The thing is, if you purchased them now, Mr. Minister, they would remain Canadian, whereas if you wait any length of time, you know darn well that they will never come back to Canada; they will remain American.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only thing I can suggest is you should have a few more E. P. Taylors down there with a little extra cash.

Mr. B. Newman: How about George Kerrs?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you want to see my bank statement?

Mr. Burr: How much could be expected as a grant?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Grants start at 50 per cent then they increase, depending on the size of the authority, the tax base of the authority, the assessment of that watershed. Take, for example, a small authority like the Saugeen. Their grants under our new formula might go as high as 65 per cent on projects that Toronto would only get 50 per cent for. On our small reservoir programmes, 75 per cent.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Do they ever go higher than that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Under ARDA. Under the ARDA programme the total grants were 90 per cent.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I brought this up last night, I have a few small communities who

are experiencing problems with the Rainy River—Pinewood, Stratton and Barwick—whose total budget is less than one quarter of a million or a half million dollars, and they could not even raise the 35 per cent to do it.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 502 carried.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Carried.

Mr. B. Newman: Could I have an explanation of the SWEEP programme from the minister?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member can see in this estimate we have \$1,200 set aside for the programme. We hope that that will—

An hon. member: Twelve! Twelve?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sorry, \$1.2 million! It is just these damn zeros.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Now I know your bank account.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This will enable us to hire about 1,000 students, starting at age 18 or over, as long as they are in school.

Mr. B. Newman: When does the programme start?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: About the end of June.

Mr. B. Newman: Have you taken on employees now? Are there application forms available?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: How does a student know that he can get into a programme like this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They just write to either my department or The Department of Lands and Forests, and an application will be sent to them to be filled out.

Mr. B. Newman: Now this is only 18-year-olds.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And over.

Mr. B. Newman: And over. It is not like the junior forest ranger programme that limits it to 17?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As long as they are in school. Seventeen, right.

Mr. B. Newman: Does this likewise include the gentler sex?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: So that this will be available to both males and females?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Are men and boys able to take advantage of it too?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Just those 18 or over, as long as they are in school.

Mr. T. P. Reid: He asked about the gentler sex. I am asking about the men.

Mr. B. Newman: He means girls.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Oh!

An hon. member: I do not think they are that gentle anymore.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): That excludes women libbers!

Mr. T. P. Reid: This includes both high school students and college students.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. W. E. Johnston (Carleton): Does the hon. member want an application?

Mr. B. Newman: So he would write to the minister's department or to Lands and Forests. Has the minister sufficient students now enrolled for the programme, and if he has not, when is the cut-off date for applicants?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think we will probably be more or less on a first-come basis. I must say that there are few vacancies left. In other words, the number of applications that have come in since this was announced—Heavens! I am advised that we have twice as many applications as there are jobs.

Mr. B. Newman: The minister does not have a breakdown as to where the applicants generally come from, has he?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, yes; that is very important, because they are going to be hired by the local authorities. The idea is really—

Mr. B. Newman: I see. Then there is no chance really of anyone in Essex county getting employment with SWEEP because there is no conservation authority.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It will be more difficult. It is quite possible that the adjoining authority there—what is the closest one—will have jobs.

Mr. B. Newman: Will it be a live-in programme?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No.

Mr. B. Newman: They will have to commute from their place of residence to the programme. Thank you.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask in conjunction with this—I do not have a conservation authority in my area either—is there going to be some co-operation between the minister's department and Lands and Forests to split up this money, so that those areas that do not have a conservation authority will get that much more benefit from the Lands and Forests programme?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The Lands and Forests programme will be in effect where we are not.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is the question, yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Fine.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. B. Newman: The minister has more than the number of applicants now. He is oversubscribed 100 per cent. So there is no possibility at all of any student in the Essex county area getting in on the SWEEP programme.

Would the minister consider the use of the provincial park in the Essex county area as an area in which he could employ individuals on the SWEEP programme?

There are two parks in Essex county. There is the one on Lake St. Clair and the other one, Holiday Beach, on Lake Erie. Our students certainly would like an opportunity not to only make the money but also likewise to get involved in something that is worthwhile.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might mention, Mr. Chairman, that the Maitland authority has an allotment, we will put it that way, of 11. There have been only eight applications from that area.

Mr. Gaunt: That will not be long filling up. I am sending them in now.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No I would not think so.

Mr. Gaunt: I am sending them in applications.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The lower Thames allowed 32—and there are how many from there? There are only 10 from there.

Of course, this could fill up, but I am saying that even with this oversubscription or

overapplication, some of the authorities in the member's area have not used up their allotment.

Mr. B. Newman: No one from the Essex county area could really go there because it would be going too far away from home.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is possible. The thing is there is not any provision for the authorities that I know of at this time to board these students. Now whether they could live there in some other way, or whether they would be prepared to put up some temporary facilities like tents for example, I could see them doing that under certain circumstances.

But to answer the member's question regarding parks, as the hon. member knows, the SWEEP programme in this item of the budget is strictly under our branch, under the conservation authorities. The Lands and Forests programme, which is similar, could very well include parks, but I think they would have to be provincial parks. It is quite possible that Lands and Forests could arrange their programme in the member's area. Where there is not an authority, students could be put to work under this programme.

There are other programmes. The hon. member mentioned the junior forest ranger programme for 17-year-olds. We have our junior conservation programme, which is not a large programme, but this is mainly for 16 year olds. Whether these have been all used up or not I do not know. The applications for all summer employment have been coming in very heavily in the last month or six weeks.

Mr. B. Newman: How many girls will be employed in this programme? What is the percentage?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not think there is any set percentage. As I say, we are accepting these on a sort of first-come, first-served basis, and I suppose that when some of these areas are filled—it is doubtful, but there may be one or two authorities which will not use up their full complement—we may make some arrangements within our budget to increase the complement of those that are filled. These could be girls or boys.

Mr. B. Newman: You are not setting a quota?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. We are not looking at 50 per cent or anything like that. It is pretty well on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mr. B. Newman: Will they both be paid the same amount?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel, then Mr. Burr.

Mr. Martel: Just a short question, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Is this on the same vote? When you have—

Mr. Martel: No. It is another point.

Mr. Chairman: Then we will hear from Mr. Burr.

Mr. Burr: There are 1,000 places in the SWEEP programme which is under Lands and Forests and 1,000 under Energy and Resources Management. How do you receive your applications? Do they all go to SWEEP, in care of the Parliament Buildings; then are they assigned to you and do you divide them up?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, there are two sources—my department and Lands and Forests. I have not seen the Lands and Forests application form, but I would assume it is pretty well the same as ours.

Mr. Burr: Then it is not identical?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know; I really cannot say that. I have not seen the Lands and Forests application. But ours is strictly an application with a printed envelope; it does not have to be stamped. It just goes to them and they send it back to our office.

Mr. Burr: Is it possible that you would have 2,000 applications and Lands and Forests might have only 200?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Burr: Is that possible?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Certainly. If you mean, are we going to make sure that we both use up our complement, that is so. I think ours will be more popular because we are hiring people locally.

Mr. Burr: Then the Lands and Forests SWEEP is different?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The Lands and Forests programme is an expansion of the regular student programme which means living-in for the most part.

Mr. Burr: Is it an expansion of something like the junior forest rangers?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, something like the junior forest rangers.

Mr. Burr: It is really an expansion of the junior forest rangers?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Pretty well.

Mr. Burr: Then the two programmes are not the same. Is it possible that some of these students are applying to both?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I suppose. We will have to make sure that one student does not get two acknowledgements.

Mr. Burr: In that case, students from Essex county could apply to the Lands and Forests scheme and get accepted?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Definitely.

Mr. Chairman: Was the member for Lakeshore's question in conjunction with this?

Mr. Lawlor: I am kind of interested in this. What is the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority allotment? Or is it done that way?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: One hundred and six.

Mr. Lawlor: Is that the largest single allotment?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Lawlor: What would be the next one in line?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The next one would probably be Hamilton—no, Grand is 96, Hamilton is 22.

Mr. R. K. McNeil (Elgin): Where there is a small authority, do you submit so many names to that authority?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The application is made to our branch.

Mr. McNeil: How does that authority choose these people? Do they have the opportunity of choosing them or do you send them X number of students?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We send them the applications; they arrange the interviews and select them.

Mr. B. Newman: Would the minister consider the use of the local parks departments and assign youths in a municipality under his department, working under the supervision of a parks commissioner, to undertake a similar type of programme for a municipality that may not have a conservation authority?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only thing that strikes me—and I am thinking of my own municipality in my own area—is that these local departments hire a number of summer students every year. There are recreation authorities that hire a number of students every year and I would think that they would utilize them as much as possible.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, were there not such an acute job shortage for our upper secondary and post-secondary students, I would accept your comments. But now, where we have so many unemployed among our grades 12 and 13 and university students, I think we should think of every way that we could possibly expand programmes to get the benefit of these services of youth and to show them that we are concerned.

I know that there is a matter of money involved all the time and we cannot simply be spending money for the sake of spending it, but did you ever consider expanding the programme to include the idea that I made mention of, the use of student personnel?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, that is right. One thing that we do here is find out as much as possible what is available locally from the point of view of jobs or projects. We are aware, of course, that the municipality, as I say, will hire students if there is a municipal tourist information facility, say, or to work in recreation, around the swimming pools, and the various jobs that are available locally.

The thing we have to worry about, of course, is to make sure that these jobs are meaningful. In other words, we could very well say make this \$3 million instead of \$1.2 million and double the complement of each one of these authorities. But kids will soon twig to the idea that all you are doing is trying to keep them busy, keep them out of trouble and they will get sick and tired of raking the same old fields or spending two months planting trees. You have got to keep the kids interested, otherwise about the middle of July they are going to drop out.

Mr. B. Newman: Not this summer.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: These figures that we have from the authorities are pretty well the maximum.

Mr. B. Newman: With the budget provided?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, no, we virtually ask them: "Under a programme such as SWEEP, with the idea of putting students to work

doing certain things within your authority—"that is cleaning up river beds; working in some form of erosion control projects; working around recreational areas; if there is wild life within that authority; painting; repairing—"give us an idea how many extra employees you can handle." And this is pretty well the figure, you see.

In other words we hire them, but every time you hire a dozen students it means probably another truck or something like that. Somebody has to supervise these gangs, you see. So the authority says, in spite of the fact that we are picking up the tab entirely, "If it is going to be a worthwhile project, this is the maximum number we can handle."

So I would rather look for some other project to employ students for the summer, rather than overload this and have a lot of young students in September cynical with the way we spend our money.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Root, have you something to say?

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): I was wondering if the Grand River authority had reported any applications.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I see we have 49 applications in here from the member for Wellington-Dufferin—do you know who that is—and two have been accepted.

The Grand has 138 applications received and there are openings for 96.

Mr. Root: So there goes your relevance.

Mr. Chairman: Are there any further questions on this subject?

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, is the Lands and Forests SWEEP age limit the same?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I believe it is.

Mr. Burr: It is 18?

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Chairman, I come back to that point of last night on the McMichael conservation area.

Mr. Chairman: Just a moment, I think, Mr. Martel—

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Mr. Chairman, very briefly to the minister, when a convention is held under the—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Convention?

Mr. Martel: Yes, for a convention under the jurisdiction of the conservation authority, as was recently held in Sudbury, who makes up the list of those people who will participate in such a convention?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would think it would be the conservation authority chairman—the committee which puts on this convention.

Mr. Martel: In that particular area?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well no. The chairman of the 37 or 38 people who belong to their council, you see. It is sort of like the supreme council. I think they make up a list. Why, were you invited?

Mr. Martel: Oh, I was invited, Mr. Chairman. The thing that upsets me is that you had a convention in the Sudbury area, but the people on the pollution committee who as I understand it had been doing all the work on behalf of your department while you got organized in the last three of four years were not on the list, nor were people from Pollution Probe invited.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, this is conservation; it is a little different.

Mr. Martel: We are talking about conservation. When the two groups that are doing any work towards that end are left off the list I become suspicious as to who drafts it, because you know who hosted those two conventions and bought the whisky? It was not Pollution Probe and it was not the pollution committee, it was none other than our two mutual friends up there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would not say that they were—

Mr. Martel: It just seems strange that those people who have been taking them on regularly would not even be invited to a convention for the very purpose of conservation when they are the group that have been doing the most work to try and focus on the problems of the area. It is very disturbing.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand that the president of Inco is a member of Pollution Probe. Did you know that?

Mr. Martel: The president? When did he join?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know how long they have been established.

Mr. Martel: They would never approve that membership. You know Pollution Probe got in but they had to break down the door almost. The organizers were going to heave them out on their ear, but they stayed anyway.

But it just creates a bad taste, Mr. Minister, and I would hope that you might, through your good office, emphasize to the people who are putting on conventions in the future that the very people who are doing the work should be invited to the convention.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member knows we are having a students' convention—I believe at Laurentian—some time in June to deal with the whole aspect of pollution control. It is called "The Straight Goods." We need something like that up there after you and a few others—

Mr. Martel: We just focussed a little too much light.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, well this has sort of balanced things out a little bit.

Mr. Martel: Well you are going to invite us, are you?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, you will be invited.

Mr. Martel: Will Pollution Probe and the pollution committee be invited?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Send us a list.

Mr. Martel: No, those are the only two. That will be enough to—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are they students?

Mr. Martel: No, they are the two groups I would like there as well.

Mr. Chairman: I think probably we are getting away from this estimate.

Mr. Martel: No, this is conservation authority.

Mr. Chairman: No, I think we are introducing things that—

Mr. Martel: We are not talking about pollution at all. We are talking about conservation.

Mr. Root: Mr. Chairman, on the matter of pollution in the Sudbury area, I sat in on a public hearing in Sudbury on International Nickel and I sat there for 15 minutes and nobody appeared. So I do not know who these two groups are that you are talking about.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deacon.

Mr. Deacon: Regarding McMichael Conservation Authority—I understand this authority lies between the conservation branch of The Department of Energy and Resources Management and the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and that the latter authority itself does not have any actual—

Mr. Chairman: Order please!

Mr. Deacon: The Metro authority does not have any real jurisdiction over the property. Would it not be sensible to have this property put directly under the conservation branch and also to consider putting on its board members of the local council or members appointed by the local council in which the operation is located?

There seem to have been many cases of misunderstanding between the McMichaels, who are very dedicated to their operation—misunderstandings between them and the local residents—and it seems to me sensible to have the operation placed directly under the conservation branch. I would appreciate the minister's comments on that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have been looking into the operation of the McMichael museum in relation to our department, and frankly we are not sure how it got within our department in the first place. I suppose it is because of the collection of art and its relationship to the authority. But we have been considering the possibility of some other department dealing, shall we say, with cultural matters, like University Affairs or Education; that this would be more appropriate under that particular department rather than ours.

I think I can say with some confidence that between now and this time next year, the setup and the relationship of the McMichael to the government will be changed, and in a way that I hope will be improved.

Mr. Deacon: Thank you. Would the government give consideration to having among the members of the board at least one appointee of the local council in which the operation is located?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That could be done. I would think that would automatically be done, I suppose, if it is pretty well under the jurisdiction of the local authority.

Mr. Deacon: No, it is not at this time. The local authority does not feel it has any real jurisdiction—it is only in name—but it has not found it has any real power, and for that reason there has been practically no link at all between the local community and the operation. I feel that it is important that such should be established.

Could I have a copy of the financial statement of the authority, as the minister suggested last night?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: A statement of the McMichael? Sure. This can be given.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 502 carried?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Are the people on these boards—the chairman, the vice-chairman—are they paid a salary, any emolument at all?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean on the McMichael—

Mr. T. P. Reid: No, on the conservation—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. A per diem rate.

Mr. Chairman: Is the vote carried?

Mr. B. Newman: There is no salary at all? It is strictly a per diem rate?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The resource managers are on salary. Apparently the Metro chairman is on salary.

Mr. B. Newman: How substantial are they?

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 502 carried?

Mr. B. Newman: We are waiting for the reply.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have not got that information.

Vote 502 agreed to.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, what is the committee planning to do tomorrow morning?

Mr. Chairman: The committee, tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock, will meet in room 440 of the accident claims branch of The Department of Transport.

Mr. Martel: Will there be no estimates tomorrow?

Mr. Chairman: No, there will be no estimates tomorrow. We sit in conjunction with the estimates in the House—Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, as I understand it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, we have finished vote 502. Vote 503. Mr. Martel has moved that we adjourn, I am sure all are in favour, until 8:30 this evening.

Mr. Martel: At 8:30 this evening we want you to hear some pearls of wisdom.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 503, Mr. Bullbrook.

Mr. Bullbrook: Thank you.

Mr. Martel: Is the movement to adjourn debatable?

Mr. Bullbrook: No, it is not. We voted against it.

An hon. member: Take a vote.

Mr. Chairman: All right. All those in favour?

Mr. Martel: This is simply ridiculous. We have got 12 minutes to get into the House after we take this stuff to our offices.

Mr. T. P. Reid: There is nothing important going on.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest that it being almost 18 minutes after four and with other matters taking place in the House, I do not think, Mr. Bullbrook, that you would have time to present your case.

Mr. Bullbrook: Not at these fees.

Mr. T. P. Reid: There is a motion before us. Let us vote on the motion.

Mr. Chairman: I do not think we really need a vote.

Mr. T. P. Reid: We have a motion, let us vote on it.

Mr. Chairman: We will adjourn it until 8:30 this evening, at the reconvening of the House.

Mr. T. P. Reid: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, there is a motion before—

Mr. Chairman: We are adjourning, Mr. Reid.

It being 4:20 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

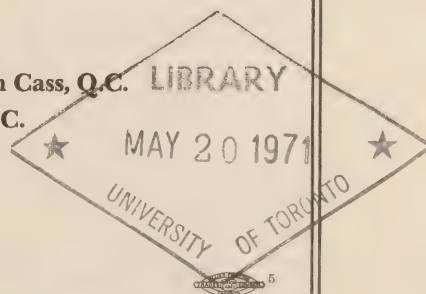
Tuesday, May 4, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1971

The committee resumed at 8:43 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (continued)

On vote 503:

Mr. Chairman: On vote 503, waste management programme. Carried? **Mr. Young.**

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, this whole matter of waste management, of course, is a very vexed problem in present-day civilization. We have tried various ways—burning and burying and pulverizing and sorting—but I think the time is here when certainly some pretty heavy thinking has to be done, short of curbing our population—and cutting back there is very difficult!

Sanitary landfill sites are getting scarcer all the time and even in this province of ours, outside our cities we are going to have to go farther and farther, and of course every time a new sanitary landfill is proposed you get real problems because people do not want them near their places of abode and then, of course, they do present certain problems, lasting for some years.

Now, I wonder, Mr. Chairman, what has been done so far here in this province about the whole matter of sorting and attempting to separate out the various types of pollutants—glass, for example.

We have talked a lot about bottles, non-returnable bottles, and others. We talk about beer bottles and Coke bottles, soft drink bottles, but when it comes to the other kind, the jams and jellies and pickles and everything that you might mention, all these perhaps add up to as many or more than the others. Are we doing something to think in terms of getting those separated out?

The returnables will solve part of the problem, but not by a long shot all of it, such as utilizing that glass, separating out other facets of the garbage into potential fertilizer, and into other components.

I know this may cost more immediately, but I wonder if the long-range cost to society

is going to be as great, because if we continue in our present course of trying to bury and burn, we are going to run into real trouble in the not-too-distant future, and time is running short.

I have seen some of these experiments carried out and some actual sorting and building up of fertilizer and separating out of solid materials in some other places. I wonder, Mr. Minister, if you could tell us just what is happening in Ontario in this whole field of looking forward to the future and seeing if we cannot do something about real management in the way of separation, in the way of pulverization, in the way of turning the garbage into a real asset to our civilization.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Well, Mr. Chairman, first of all I might say that as the hon. members of the committee can see by the item, vote 503, and the note that is part of that item, at least at the present time this is a new branch. As the hon. members know, we are basically a regulatory branch concerned with those sanitary landfill sites and incinerators and dumps that are operated either privately or by the municipalities.

Now the first real task that was undertaken by the branch after the passage of the legislation last year was to inspect and upgrade existing disposal sites and incinerators. There were a number of garbage sites in the province, particularly in the rural part of the province, that just did not meet our regulations or our requirements from the point of view of health or the point of view of pollution. We have made a good start on this. Really we were operating, you might say, even before the legislation was given royal assent last September.

We have also been instrumental in assisting with some pilot projects that have been undertaken, particularly by local citizens' groups, with the idea of seeing just what can be done from the point of view of separating waste, what it would cost to a municipality from the point of view of garbage disposal and also assisting in some forms of research as far as the recycling of waste is concerned.

One pilot project that is underway at the present time, which happens to be in the

town of Burlington, is operated by a local citizens' group there. They have set up a depot which is really a form of a warehouse and have been separating paper, glass and cans and are able to dispose of that waste to warehouses operated by various companies in the Hamilton area. They, of course, earn a certain amount of revenue from that.

The main part of our involvement in this project will be to find out, first of all, if the average householder will go to the trouble of separating his waste. In other words, will he put separate containers out at the curb once or twice a week, one containing glass which would be, as the hon. member mentioned, empty jam bottles or ketchup bottles or even at this stage non-returnable pop bottles. Another container would include cans which might have had pop or beer or what-have-you in them as well as some form of other foods, and another containing paper.

There is some garbage, of course, that it is difficult to separate and we are going to take part of the town, a certain area of the town which would contain possibly 5,000 people and get answers to these questions, to see if those citizens will co-operate and then have the extra pickup, the extra equipment to make these pickups. Over a period of time, whether it is six months or a year, how long it takes to have a complete test or complete a project of this kind, we will find out what the cost will be and then of course we would assume that you could multiply it to indicate the overall cost in a town of say, 50,000 or 60,000 people, as in Burlington.

There is no question in my mind, Mr. Chairman, that this may be a personal opinion but I feel that the cost will be more. And then, of course, the municipality, based on that information, will feel that possibly there should be some provincial assistance to meet this extra cost and it will, I suppose, involve manpower, equipment, extra facilities and things like that.

An hon. member: To do what?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well to pick up the separated garbage. At the present time in our town there is one pickup a week and of course everything is together. It is put in the compressor-type of truck and then the garbage, in Burlington for example, is taken to a sanitary landfill site.

With this separation at least initially on a voluntary basis there are bound to be extra costs. How much will it be to the householder and, of course, the main question is will we get citizen co-operation?

Mr. Young: I wonder right there, Mr. Minister, if I could ask this question: has any attention been directed toward providing for householders, in the likelihood that they would buy them, a triple container? We have single garbage containers with lids on them and a good many people will put a paper bag inside that; perhaps we could have a double or triple container that they could purchase as readily and as easily to go into the kitchen and put their paper bags in if they want to, and then those containers in some way could be separated and dumped into three garbage cans and then put out this way.

It seems to me this is a direction which should be explored and if these were readily available on the market, with the power of propaganda that governments can supply encouraging people to do it this way it might be a real step forward.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, there is no question that there has to be some convenience to this.

Mr. Young: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: People being people, it must be better than some rather crude method of separating and doing this on a regular basis every day into three types of containers. It may be difficult to get the type of enthusiasm from householders unless there are more convenient ways of disposal than there are at the present time.

I understand that there is some form of garbage disposal that can be built into a unit in the kitchen, a form of pulverization, I believe, where I see by the advertisements that a week's garbage, which usually maybe amounts to two or three—depending on the size of the family—normal garbage containers, can be reduced to the size of one large paper bag as a result of using this particular equipment, which is just a form of compression or pulverization.

This, of course, defeats the purpose in some way of separating garbage and some form of recycling, but of course, it does achieve the purpose of minimizing the taxing, shall we say, of our sanitary landfill operations, which is one of our problems. We are just running out of available sanitary landfill sites near our urban centres and every time a municipality wants to open another one there is local citizen objection. This is beginning to be a very difficult problem. Incineration has not been perfected really to the extent that it does not create some local objection so even that is not entirely an acceptable method.

One point I forgot to mention in this Burlington experiment is the fact there is some revenue generated from the sale of used paper and used bottles and used cans. Not a great deal, but there is some, and this might help offset the extra cost that may be involved in a municipal system.

Mr. Young: There is one other thing, too, Mr. Chairman, about which I would like to ask the minister. We take for granted that the garbage is there in the house to be thrown out, but I wonder if we should not be taking a long, long look at how the garbage gets there.

I raised in the House the other day, for example, the matter of styrofoam containers for eggs, which we are getting through our grocery stores. Now those certainly are much more of a garbage problem than the old cardboard containers. We get our suits from the cleaners with plastic around them, we have all kinds of wrappings and fancy packaging of all kinds of things that come into our homes and then have to go out in the garbage. I wonder if government should not be taking a pretty careful look at this point at where we can short-circuit this process and, instead of allowing all the kind of packaging and the garbage we have coming into the house, we cannot stop it before it gets there.

I think this would be a very fruitful way of garbage disposal, if you will, to stop it before it arrives in the home. Then you do not have to cart it away and you do not have to have sanitary landfill. Now I know our civilization is based on plastics and all kinds of fancy gadgets, but I wonder how many of them we need, how many we could do away with if in fact our people realized just what they are doing with all this affluent packaging that we have today.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): On the same point, Mr. Chairman, I was going to say that when the minister was first answering the hon. member's question, he was talking about garbage in more senses than one when he was talking about disposing of it. The clue, the secret or the answer to this problem is not creating waste. When a minister talks about whether or not people would avoid creating waste he obviously has a short memory. Because during the war our economy, the economy of every country that was in the war on either side, was geared to preventing waste.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): So was this province.

Mr. Ben: Women were encouraged to go shopping with their own shopping bags. Whether it was the knitted kind or whether they saved the paper bags or whether it was a leather bag, they took their own bags to the shopping centre. They did not wrap their products but put them unwrapped into these shopping bags. If you want to avoid the problem of finding how to dispose of this, then you have got to avoid this paper and cardboard wrapping which composes 39.5 per cent of combustible waste or refuse in Metro. Food waste is 32.4 per cent—well, we just happen to be a wasteful nation; I guess we probably throw enough food in the garbage can to feed a nation twice our size.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We only—

Mr. Ben: Let me go back; that is just the shopping bags. We should stop buying preserves in tin cans, which cannot be recycled in their present state; the only way we can recycle a can is by destroying it, smelting it down and forming a new can. So we should stop using cans, and if we have to use preserves, we should buy them in glass jars of a standard size that could be used by any company—a standard 16-ounce jar or a standard 10-ounce jar. Better still, women should buy their vegetables raw from the market and they would find out that food is still pretty doggone cheap in this province, and what they have been paying for is somebody else to do their cooking.

The same applies to bottles. They are easy to recycle either in their present state or their reconstituted state; that is, it is easy enough to melt glass down—

Mr. Haggerty: The same with liquor bottles.

Mr. Ben: Liquor bottles too. There is a law that says you cannot recycle liquor bottles, you cannot reuse them; it is an offence to reuse them.

Mr. Haggerty: Alcohol bottles.

Mr. Ben: That is so the bottles will not end up in a moonshiner's place and the government will lose its revenue.

Mr. Haggerty: They do it with beer bottles; they send them back.

Mr. Ben: But they cannot do it with whisky bottles.

The fact is that the way to prevent these problems from arising is to avoid waste. They have even now discovered a way of reusing

the rubber in discarded tires. That is recycling rubber.

A lot of these things cost more to recycle than it does to create a new product. This has been one of the doggone troubles, and in the health estimates it drives me up the wall when I read all these hospital magazines where the so-called efficiency experts tell them that it is better to use disposable syringes, disposable needles and so on because they save two lousy seconds a day.

Mr. Haggerty: But where do they leave these things?

Mr. Ben: In the garbage can. In the garbage disposal places, where youngsters can get hold of them. They could go back to using the ordinary glass syringes and put them back into the—

An hon. member: Why do they not leave it inside?

Mr. Ben: Oh, what do they call them—autoclaves? This is the way you are going to avoid waste. This stuff that you are talking about. It is clear that you do not intend to even meet this problem head on.

You keep talking about this nonsense about a pulverizer. We had a heck of a fight in the city here trying to get the city of Toronto to keep a bylaw on the books which prevents pulverizers or Garburators being used because they—

Mr. Young: It is a different thing.

Mr. Ben: It is a different thing, is it?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: I am glad I at least keep you awake.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: I woke you up, which is the first time you have been awake in many many years, mentally or physically.

Mr. R. K. McNeil (Elgin): That is what you are always doing in the House—misleading the House and giving impertinent facts and that is what you are doing tonight.

Mr. Ben: I shall continue to be impertinent, especially to you. I should have let him sleep. His snoring was disturbing the people.

There are a lot of other problems. For example, Mr. Burr was talking about composting. One of the big problems in Toronto is disposing of the sludge and sewage. In Min-

nesota they had a contract with people who dried out these solids for fertilizer, but it does not sell. They had a person in Toronto who agreed to buy from the city and sell as milorganite. It does not sell and we have huge stacks of it and we let you cart it away for nothing.

Mr. Young: Where?

Mr. Ben: Down at the Ashbridges Bay plant—any sewage disposal plant. The end result was that they had to construct furnaces and burn it. They could not dispose of it.

An hon. member: Because of this situation?

Mr. Ben: Because we are just wasteful by nature and I do not think it is a question of whether we could convince people to do it.

We have got to impress upon people it is a question of the survival, in the long run, of the human race and civilization as we know it today—that everything is not going to last forever.

Pollution Probe had a very interesting article to show how our minerals are going to be depleted. By 2042, helium, crude oil, natural gas, uranium, manganese, chromium, nickel, molybdenum, tungsten, cobalt—they are all going to be depleted because we just keep on wasting them.

Now, Mr. Minister, what you better start doing is findings ways of convincing all of us not to create waste—I think then we will not have a problem of waste disposal.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. member appreciates the fact that to convince the people that they should not waste, or create waste, or even buy goods that are elaborately packaged is going to be a difficult thing to do.

Mr. Ben: This is true. That is what they do not know.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, this is true and this is being done as you know by the Minister of Consumer Affairs in Ottawa, Mr. Basford. He is moving in now to the packaging field.

Mr. Haggerty: You said in your speech you were going to have all the pollution cleaned up in the Province of Ontario. You have had one year now, and you have only one year to go.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, gentlemen. The member is making a speech.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Where have you fellows been tonight? All we had was that cheap wine.

An hon. member: How can you talk like that about Ontario wine? It only affects the Tories.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, but there is no question that it has to be by regulation. I think, for example, if we can co-operate with the federal government—it has got to be on a national basis because you will have women going from Ottawa to Hull, or from Niagara Falls, Ontario, to across the way because goods are more elaborately packaged and they are more elaborately set out for sale. I think that there can be some control.

I agree with the hon. member regarding packaging. There does not have to be the elaborate packaging that we put up with today. Maybe we should go back to the ordinary market, the farmer-type market, where you can buy your goods or you can buy tomatoes by picking a dozen out of a barrel, or a basket, or something. I agree that this is the type of thing that can be done—or buy a turkey which still has its neck and head on there. The only thing is if you were sitting in a streetcar, half a dozen people would pass out.

Getting back to the business of recycling, which we were talking about. The hon. members probably saw an article in the paper about the difficulty in marketing some of these products. We talk about used paper, but apparently that used paper for various reasons is not saleable, or marketable, for some reason or other. For the most part it will probably end up as garbage, regardless of what we do as far as segregation is concerned.

Glass, I understand, has to be cleaned to recycle it. It has to be segregated as to colour. If there are any aluminum rings attached, they have to be removed. And, of course, it has to be transported to a glass factory and I think there are only a limited number in Ontario. So the question right now I think is not only the problem of segregation and collection and disposal, it is a question of economically disposing of these used products.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, for reasons of economy we will never do it. We agree it is not economical. We agree that it is cheaper to manufacture paper from the original pulp than it is from waste paper.

Mr. Young: The cost to society might be greater.

Mr. Ben: That is right. That is the point.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I agree with you and I agree the answer is probably some form of government legislation or government regulation. But I was always of the impression that to pass laws you have to have some degree of acceptance by the public and I am wondering just how many people would do away with this type of elaborate marketing we have today. How much more in taxes will people pay for segregating garbage and for the disposal of segregated garbage?

I think that a lot of these things have to be tried, as we are trying, on a pilot project basis to see first of all if they are workable, if they can be done, and what the cost is. I know that the cost if we do not do it, is going to be greater than the cost if we do. There is no question about that, but it depends so much on co-operation, so much on the attitude of the public that this is what has to be done.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. W. Hodgson.

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): I would like, Mr. Chairman, just to speak for a minute on the waste management programme as it relates to the urban rural municipalities.

The waste management programme as it relates to the urban rural municipality is, in some instances—and I know it is in my own area—costing six times as much this year to carry out the programme as it was in former years. Not that I object to the programme because—

An hon member: Regional government?

Mr. W. Hodgson: Regional government does not come into this. In former years in the community the garbage dump was a real nuisance. This is a real relief to the people who live near where the garbage dump is located. As I say it is costing six times as much in one of the municipalities I refer to now and it is not even nearly meeting the requirements of the programme of the waste management branch.

I was glad to hear the minister mention subsidies. He did not elaborate on it; maybe he would elaborate more. I think the answer to this programme, whether it be carried out as you say by the regional government—it is one of the functions that should be, as far as I am concerned, carried out by the regional government.

Mr. Haggerty: We need all kinds of time.

Mr. W. Hodgson: Well, we will leave that as it hangs. It just depends on which region you live in. But I would strongly urge that our government, if it is serious about carrying out air pollution control and pollution control, should subsidize the municipalities that are making an effort. We are forcing this extra expense on them and I think they should be subsidized by the provincial government because six times the expense in the municipality I am talking about means two mills to a lot of people who are not even using the garbage dumps in rural municipalities.

This is all I wanted to say at this time. I urge that we give consideration to a subsidy to municipalities which are trying to do a good job on pollution control of their garbage dumps. Maybe the answer in the area in which I live is that they go into a joint effort and then we subsidize the region for carrying out a garbage disposal programme for the whole region.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you through?

Mr. W. Hodgson: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I want to say, Mr. Chairman, there is no question that we know from the limited time that we have been in this programme, that there is some extra cost to the municipalities. Their immediate reaction is that there should be some sort of a grant or a subsidy. That helps at least partially to confirm that the public is not prepared to accept the extra cost for these anti-pollution measures or these measures to protect our environment. They have to be convinced in some way.

I know that garbage disposal, for example, is way down the old totem pole as far as priority is concerned with local governments and I think this is a very natural thing. They would rather have schools or arenas or better roads or something like that than worry about something that really does not create or result in any overall improvement, at least visual, in their community.

I would assume that the province, therefore, will have to get into this area as we are subsidizing other things. But it has disappointed us that immediately upon there being an increase in cost, regardless of how much, there really is not any local enthusiasm to do something about the disposal of waste unless there is some sort of a subsidy from the provincial government.

Having said that, I agree with the hon. member that possibly the answer is on an area or regional basis. Particularly where you have one large sanitary landfill site, for example, in an area it would make sense—assuming that two or three municipalities can get together and agree where that site should be—it makes sense that it should be collected and disposed of on an area or regional basis. I am sure that would be more efficient and it probably would be less costly.

At the same time they have got to update their methods. They have got to get more equipment at their sanitary landfill site. They have to have better management. It has to be open longer during the day or during the week. If it is an incinerator they have to buy a more sophisticated or more efficient type of incinerator so that it is not causing nuisance by way of air pollution or smell to their neighbourhood.

These things all have to be done and these are the things, really, we find out will have to be done as we move in and require, under our legislation, private operators and municipal operators of disposal sites, disposal incinerators, to update them, to improve on the operation and to buy new equipment. We see this as a future form of provincial government involvement here. We try to be just a regulatory advisory and enforcing agency now. I think we may have to get into the business the same as we did with sewage treatment plants.

Mr. W. Hodgson: I would say one word in caution—that your enforcement officers should not be too hard on the municipalities particularly in this first year that they are clamping down. Give these municipalities a chance without levying hardship on the taxpayers to look after this. Give them a little while to get the programme underway because the municipalities where the garbage dumps are located are rural municipalities.

They collect all the garbage and they have bylaws against taking it from other municipalities but it slips in from areas where there is 10,000 population or 15,000 population. It is the farmer who is protesting; I mean the rural fellow who does not need the garbage dump at all. He has got some place in the bushes or somewhere to dump his. I mean we are penalizing this guy. This is why I say I am glad to hear you say that there is consideration by your department of maybe, getting into subsidizing the municipalities such as I am speaking about.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, I have four or five short questions that I think the minister could answer in short answers. For example, how many staff have you in this waste management branch now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There are 19.

Mr. Burr: Nineteen for the whole province? Do you not think that is pretty skimpy?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do need more personnel particularly at the branch office. We have only four here and we have 15 people in our regional offices across the province. I am hoping, of course, that, shall we say, in spite of the figure of \$387,000 with the reorganization of the department we will be able to add more people to the branch even during the present fiscal year.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, in the programme description it says that "devising effective procedures requires investigation of waste disposal practices." Where have you investigated? Over in Europe?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. Our people from the branch have travelled extensively including Europe. We have looked at incineration, for example, in Germany. We have looked at liquid waste disposal operations in continental Europe and in England. We have studies going on; we have one going on now at the University of Waterloo which involves a sanitary landfill study. The branch, in spite of the fact it is small, is continuously involved in updating its knowledge from whatever expertise is available, not only in Ontario but outside the province.

Mr. Burr: Having acquired this knowledge or having done this investigating, have you not found any of the European programmes that would fit Canadian communities, that you could almost adapt holus-bolus?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only one that I can think of—and I am going to ask Mr. Heaman, the director of the branch, to comment on this—the only one that I am aware of is one of the incinerator processes that is in existence. I am thinking of one, for example, in Frankfurt that is exceptionally good.

I think they are using steam there and from the point of view of aesthetics, pollution of any kind, it is not a problem. It could be part of a small college or something with a smokestack; that is how attractive it looks

with its landscaping and shrubbery and everything. We have got to update our liquid industrial waste disposal methods. We are hoping that the plant in Mississauga, which will have the latest equipment that is known, will fill that vacuum at the present time.

Mr. Heaman, have you anything you would like to say about other methods used in other countries that we could learn something from or should have?

Mr. J. D. Heaman (Waste Management Branch): Mr. Chairman, as you have commented, we have investigated a number of processes and methods aside from the ones that the minister has mentioned. Probably the most interesting prospect as far as Ontario is concerned at the moment might be this question of garbage grinding which has already been investigated and is in being in St. Catharines.

In addition to that, of course, the problem of industrial waste is receiving considerable attention and we expect to make substantial improvements along those lines. I believe those are the most significant areas that have been receiving attention at the moment.

Mr. Burr: Having discovered this very efficient incinerator in Frankfurt, how can you go about promoting that type of an incinerator in Ontario? Have you the manpower to go to places that need to build incinerators, that are on the point of doing it, and saying, "Look here, the best one we have found anywhere is over there. Why do you not go over there and use all the knowledge they have gained and build the ideas into yours?" Have you the manpower to do that? Are you doing it? Are you trying to do that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are trying to do that. Really, it does not involve too much manpower under our present function, you might say. As I say, the disposal of waste is still a municipal responsibility. I think most people are aware that there are three or four incinerators in the city of Toronto that just are not efficient enough. They should be updated or they should be replaced. There are plans for the construction of new incinerators in Toronto. We feel that the city's plans could be updated more, that they could use the type of facility that they are using in Germany. They could use the methods they are using.

There is one alderman—he can remain nameless—who was urging his colleagues to follow this example. Apparently they are tremendously costly. I believe there is one in Hamilton that will be the most modern and

up-to-date incinerator in the province, and it will cost something like \$11 million. They need three or four of these in Toronto, and we are urging them—my air management branch is telling them—that we do not think even the new incinerators that Metro is planning will necessarily meet our criteria as far as air quality is concerned. That, of course, is the main problem. So we are urging Toronto that if they are going to go into this now and spend half of that, they might as well go all the way with perhaps fewer units and have a more efficient operation.

Mr. Young: Are the plans available? I mean are plans patented? What is the mechanism by which those plans for the Frankfurt incinerator can be translated to Ontario for example?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand it is just a matter of engineering; there is nothing patented or exclusive about this at all.

Mr. Young: It is the case of getting the temperature high enough?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Burr: Are you withholding approval then?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not think we have an application as yet for approval of those incinerators. No, we have not as yet.

Mr. Burr: Are you promoting the idea of taking these incinerators and generating steam and electricity from them? Is this in the plan?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is something that Hydro is looking at.

Mr. Burr: This is a possibility; this is what they are doing in some places in Europe, right?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. Hydro is looking at this. I have asked the Chairman questions, and I believe you people have asked questions in the House, about the idea of generating electricity with steam and other types of fuel, rather than having—

Mr. Burr: What success are we having in selling this idea?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: First you have to get the steam generating operation to sufficient quantity, enough for example to generate a hydro plant like Lakeview, Hearn or something like that—it takes an awful lot of steam. If you convert your plant whereby it has to use

steam, there must be an assurance that steam as fuel will be available at all times.

Mr. Burr: Then you have to have co-operation between Hydro and the incinerator authorities? Is that being arranged? Are those people talking together?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sure they are.

Mr. Haggerty: It can be used for hospitals, universities, schools and everything else?

Mr. Chairman: I do not think Mr. Burr is finished.

Mr. Burr: You expressed some doubt about whether the public would co-operate. During the war—in Windsor at any rate—we had two separate collections each week, one for garbage and one for rubbish. In the rubbish everybody had to flatten all tin cans in order to take up less room in the garbage collection and to save labour. Everybody had to co-operate; it was part of the war effort. That is why I keep talking about an all-out effort on pollution, if you sell it to the people in these terms they will co-operate.

Now you mentioned that the recycling of paper is bogging down because of a lack of market. One San Francisco newspaper puts out many of its editions during the week or during the month printed on recycled paper. I received some bulletins from antipollution groups that have printed on the paper, "recycled paper." Has your department done anything to encourage the recycling of paper by placing orders for recycled paper? The government prints hundreds of reports. Could it not print some of these reports on recycled paper?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I may be wrong here, but I understand this particular newspaper is recycling sort of on site, reusing old paper that really never gets out of the plant. It is not a question of buying this or getting this from a paper mill. I think, shall we say—

Mr. Haggerty: It has never been printed on.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it has never been sold as a newspaper and then come back. I do not think it has gone that far.

Mr. Burr: It is some time since I read the details, but it is my impression that the paperboys participate; as I recall it, they collect the old newspapers and deliver the new ones. I think they recycle this paper several times. The colour of the paper that I have seen is kind of greyish or greenish; it

is not as attractive as the brand-new paper. But, at any rate, we are conserving our resources. We are recycling the paper; we are cutting out pollution.

Mr. Chairman: Have you any further matters, Mr. Burr?

Mr. Burr: I just want to encourage recycling by having the government or the minister's department encourage it by giving some kind of an order for paper.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right. I think there is one company—I think it is Abitibi—that has recycled paper, and I think it is mainly stationery that is for sale. It would be considered as a different quality than stationery in its original final form and we are considering purchasing some of that stationery to see if it is acceptable and can be used in a normal manner.

Mr. Burr: If the minister had printed on it "recycled," some slogan—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right.

Mr. Burr: —then people would accept it. I think I have one more question. I have seen these styrofoam egg cartons two or three times now. They look pretty substantial to me. I have not given it any thought, but I wonder if the minister has given any thought to having them returnable, encouraging people to return them, either by small deposit or in any other way, because the styrofoam I should think would last a long, long time. It would not be degradable, would it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is that the ordinary—

Mr. Burr: Not the cardboard but the plastic; it is shiny.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): It is the same sort of carton, but it is styrofoam instead of paper. It takes up a little more space. It is fancy and it just will not break down.

Mr. Burr: There are some plastic ones too.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That would be a matter of the merchants being willing to take that back and reuse that container and sell it again to you or somebody else.

Mr. Young: I presume the big egg producers buy them in tremendous quantities and pack right there and send them out to the merchants. It would have to be the same cycle as the bottles used to take, to some extent.

Mr. Burr: That is all, thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 503 carried? Mr. Deacon.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Chairman, first of all, I want to mention the very valiant effort that was made locally in our area to control the actual production of garbage by the citizens. A local firm, Spademan, instituted a programme of charging \$3 for 10 red bags and that would include the collection cost.

The difficulty, in this case, was there was such a public outcry about it that the local council decided to go to the traditional method of picking up garbage. The idea of the Spademan programme was, if people were paying according to the quantity of garbage produced, they might think a lot more about how much they produced. It was remarkable how effective that was in the limited time that the programme was in effect.

They started to sort out the quantities of the things that they might get rid of by selling for wastepaper collection or giving it to the Scouts for wastepaper and the volume of garbage was cut down quite dramatically as they did make a conscious effort.

As a matter of fact, I was at two or three meetings where people discussed the whole question of the packaging of goods they bought in the markets. They began to realize how much the housewife influences the amount of waste produced by the selection of goods off the shelves.

But I think if the waste management branch took a look at that form of collection and maybe regulations were brought into effect that would enable that type of collection to become operative, it might work. But it certainly was to me a very interesting way of making people aware of the waste they are causing unnecessarily and producing unnecessarily. I think they have quite a bit of information—Mr. Spademan is here tonight and he has quite a bit of information on where it has been operating elsewhere, I think, in North America.

I wanted to ask—going to the next item—I do not know whether the department is aware of this, or has any comment on that, but I was going to go to waste management control also.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I am not aware of that particular trade name, but I can see the objective here. It is an appeal to the public by way of merchandising and, at the same time, controlling waste, which really we have not got enough of at the present time.

Mr. Deacon: The Burlington experiment the minister spoke of is a rather interesting one, but maybe we could think in terms of something that employed both situations where there was a cost advantage to the public to save and to cycle or to sort.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know what, for example. Each community has these farmer markets—open-air markets. In our town, they are only once a week, but they are so crowded one cannot get his car near it. By the time one gets there to buy some product, it is pretty well gone. I cannot understand why there are not more of these. Really I do not know whether the chains try to buy up all the food or just what it is, but I do not know why the little woman does not do real marketing like she used to in the old days, not just taking an hour on Saturday afternoon at 5 o'clock to get the week's groceries.

Mr. Deacon: Going over the question of liquid waste disposal, last year, as the minister may recall, the member for York North and I had a meeting with him concerning the dumping of 50,000 gallons of liquid waste a day up in the Stouffville area where there was great concern about seepage of these liquid wastes, acids and oils and things like that, that might occur in the local wells and the headwaters of the Holland River and also could contaminate Stouffville's source of water. I think you carried out many test holes that indicated there was no seepage occurring, but there was still enough concern that the people had the local council close it down. At that time you expressed great concern that the result would be contamination of the lake by these people who are trying to dispose of these liquids by just dumping into the open city sewers. Of course, I was very interested that the action in closing it down caused your department to go ahead with the building of a plant to handle this.

I would be interested in learning what success you have had, the economics of this operation, how much subsidy you estimate you have to provide to make this work and the whole arrangement with the private operators that you have entered into here?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: First of all, of course, the Stouffville site the hon. member mentioned; it was unfortunate really that this was closed down the way it was. Because as the hon. member indicated, all our tests indicated that there was no danger to ground water supply. But the idea of contamination of well water is such a delicate, sensitive thing that there was enough public reaction in that

area that the township passed a bylaw prohibiting the dumping of industrial liquid waste.

Mr. Deacon: Do you not support in principle that there is a danger and this is a very sensible thing for us to face and go into this other action?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only thing is that at that time there were not sufficient disposal sites for industrial liquid waste in the area.

Mr. Deacon: No, that is right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It was a matter of time. If that site could have been used for a couple of years—and our people were satisfied there was no danger for that length of time—then other more sophisticated types of disposal sites and disposal operations would have been in operation, probably by private enterprise. In other words, the industries that were generating this waste would within themselves arrange for the proper disposal within our regulations.

Because of the closing of this site, and then because of efforts on behalf of private operators to find other sites and the local opposition and council opposition that generated, we therefore had to get into the business in some way and it resulted in buying some 50 some acres of land in Mississauga.

This land will be either leased or sold to a private operator who is in the business of building a plant and operating a plant under our surveillance and jurisdiction, you might say, or inspection, so that they can receive and treat industrial liquid waste.

Mr. Deacon: I thought the department constructed that plant?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh no, that plant is not ready yet. We are hoping that within a very short time there will be at least temporary storage facilities for the acceptance of this waste in that area. But we do not think the actual plant, which is going to amount to something over \$3 million, will be ready until some time the end of this year.

There is no subsidy involved here at all. This is strictly a viable operation, operated by a private organization. They will probably either buy or lease this land, and of course, they will pay our costs accordingly. In the meantime they will be there and be in a position to accept and treat about 25 million gallons a year of industrial liquid waste that is generated in the "golden horseshoe" area; you know, Oshawa to Niagara Falls.

Mr. Haggerty: How is he going to dispose of this? What type—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There will be some incineration but this is a very efficient type of plant. We have seen its prototype in the United States and I believe there is one in England. It will certainly have no problems meeting our air quality standards. There will really be nothing more than steam coming out of there.

Mr. Haggerty: You mean all of it will be reclaimed material?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Eventually it will.

Mr. Haggerty: What type of products?

Mr. J. D. Heaman: Metal salts.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Metal salts.

Mr. Haggerty: That is a pretty broad area, is it not? Metal salts!

Mr. Deacon: Is the province building it, Mr. Minister; or is a private operator building it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The private operator is building it.

Mr. Haggerty: He is financing it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: He is financing it and either buying or leasing the land.

Mr. Haggerty: I see.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Another point I neglected to mention is that this plant will be adjacent to our new sewage treatment plant in Peel, so that any industrial liquid wastes that are not properly treated or completely treated—there are some, because of their nature, which are very difficult to treat—will get a further treatment in our sewage treatment plant before the effluent goes into the lake.

Mr. Haggerty: How many deep well waste disposal wells are there in the Province of Ontario now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a good question. Twenty-one!

Mr. Haggerty: Twenty-one. Where are they located?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are mainly located in the Lambton, Sarnia, Essex area.

Mr. Haggerty: Does any of this waste material return, say on the American side? Does it come up through wells over there;

the water wells? Has the minister ever had any complaints from the American authorities that this waste that is going down these deep wells on the Canadian side is being returned to the American side and coming up through the water wells?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I have not. We have had some complaints from Canadians, but not from Americans.

Apparently we have had some complaints. What area did these come from?

Mr. J. C. Thatcher: In Michigan apparently, there were, I believe, three wells that showed some traces.

Mr. Haggerty: Port Huron, maybe?

Mr. Thatcher: Pardon?

Mr. Haggerty: Port Huron, Michigan?

Mr. Thatcher: Yes, in that area.

Mr. Haggerty: In that area.

Mr. Thatcher: There was a similar number in Ontario that showed the same materials. These were from wells in the Detroit River formation.

Mr. Haggerty: What effect has this on the water wells, or if a person starts to drink this?

Mr. Thatcher: None at all.

Mr. Haggerty: None at all?

Mr. Thatcher: No, the formations that the wastes are put into are very much deeper than water wells.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, but eventually they come back up, do they not? It has been proved that it does come back up to the surface again. Maybe not right in the immediate area, but in another area a few miles from it.

Mr. Thatcher: They did not affect water wells in those cases.

Mr. Deacon: What my hon. colleague is pointing out is the problem with which most of us are concerned, and that is what we are storing up for future generations when we use that method of dealing with wastes, and the need for us, if necessary, to build government plants to handle these things and charge industry accordingly.

I do not think it is enough for us to—I am glad in this case, Mr. Minister, you have

managed to get it going on its own, by private industry, but I would be very concerned that if it had not been for Stouffville closing down who knows at what time we would have gotten that moving.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is always a tendency to oversimplify here. The method of disposing of industrial liquid waste is a very complex one.

Mr. Haggerty: I recognize that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The problem was to get government to finance, immediately, a plant of this kind; to have the people who are experts in this area build this plant, and yet really not know the economics of the operation of a plant like that, what the economics of a plant would be. We still do not really know. It is not like a sewage treatment plant, in which case we know a municipality of X number of people will be using that plant.

So really, for the sake of time and for the sake of surveillance or experience, we felt that the best way to do it, at least initially, was to get a private operator to go in there and build this plant with all the risks that are involved. At the same time they would have to abide by our regulations as to quality of treatment and be ready to accept all types of industrial liquid waste, and to operate it. It may be difficult for us as a regulatory agency—we are doing the enforcing here—to at the same time be in the business; who is going to watch us?

Mr. Deacon: I suggest, Mr. Minister, that the Americans, our neighbours to the south, have certainly done a lot of work on which government has co-operated with industry or helped industry move ahead in these particular projects; in fact sponsor them, through the particularly chosen, skilled organization which constructs them. I do not think there is anything wrong with us getting into the business and taking parts in the programmes, the initiation of experimental programmes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not agree with you that if the government gets in the business there would be as many by-products developing from the operation of that plant as if private industry did.

Mr. Deacon: I point out that partnership deals are usually much more productive than when one or the other is doing it alone.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is a form of partnership.

Mr. Deacon: May I then go on to this question of the garbage disposal as we are now dealing with it?

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, could we stay on this liquid waste management?

Mr. Chairman: Yes. If we have another subject in respect of it we may as well handle it now.

Mr. B. Newman: Well I have.

Mr. Haggerty: We will go on with wells here. Would the minister say these are toxic wastes that are going down?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, they would be considered as toxic wastes, that is right. I think, Mr. Chairman, we should probably indicate that these wells are in the ground pretty well below the water tables. For example there must be some sort of a protective layer at the bottom. I think you get these in the Cambrian shield ones!

Mr. Haggerty: What is the name?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The gas shield range.

Mr. Haggerty: You hit water in that area too, salt water.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The member is just making that statement.

Mr. Haggerty: No.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I am saying is, as I understand it, those wells go down to a certain level.

They will not affect water. Now if you can name the well where this has happened.

Mr. Haggerty: How does water get down in the gas? How come they come in and pump these old wells out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you talking about the real deep, Cambrian-type wells.

Mr. Haggerty: Let us say 960 to 1,000 feet. Red medina, white medina, you name them, unless you are talking about 3,000 or 4,000 feet.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What is the average depth of some of these?

Mr. Thatcher: The existing wells are all in the Detroit River formation, which is a gas and oil formation. This is the area of Lambton county and it is encountered at about 800 feet. The Cambrian formation is the deepest set of entry formation, which

overlies the basalt rocks of the granite type, and this occurs at a depth of around 2,500 feet.

We are in the process of doing a review of disposal into shallow formations with a view of converting that to disposal to the deeper formations.

Mr. Haggerty: That would be 2,500 feet in Lambton but when it hits the Niagara Peninsula, it would run about 900 feet; this is on the Lake Erie shoreline. Then when it gets down to St. Catharines it runs out.

Mr. Thatcher: That is correct.

Mr. Haggerty: That is right, it peters out there.

But I mean this is what could happen; it could be pumped down there in the Lambton area and eventually come out here in the St. Catharines area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you not think that the liquid that is going down there is being treated in the meantime?

Mr. Haggerty: No, I do not think it is. Are there any atomic wastes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is not going in a pipe or anything?

Mr. Haggerty: Are there any atomic wastes being disposed of by the deep well process? None on this side?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not that I know of, no.

Mr. Haggerty: There are on the American side, in the Buffalo vicinity.

Are there any repercussions on this side; have there been any tests made?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean is there waste being generated from our nuclear plant?

Mr. Haggerty: I am talking about the nuclear plants in the United States, on the Buffalo side, that are dumping into deep wells.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In Canada? In Ontario?

Mr. Haggerty: No, in the United States. I was just wondering if they are using the same process here in Ontario? How do you dispose of it here? There is a certain amount of waste from nuclear generating stations.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We leave it on the station. We do not have any waste that goes out—

Mr. Haggerty: Oh no, there is a certain amount of waste that comes out of these stations.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, it stays right on the site.

Mr. Haggerty: It does?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: I wanted to ask the minister about industrial liquid waste. Now generally that is incinerated, and the minister made mention that the end product was a metallic type of salt. How is that disposed of and is there any harmful effect from its disposition?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think one of the things that was mentioned was that it is a by-product, that one of the byproducts of such a plant would be this type of salt, is that right? What is that used for?

Mr. Thatcher: We return it to industry.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And then of course it becomes—

Mr. B. Newman: Is it sold to industry?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Oh I did not know, I did not hear that.

I wanted to ask the minister if there is any control at all of the industry in the disposition of their waste? Does your department know that industry is actually getting rid of all of its liquid waste by bringing it to a central area; or is some of it maybe even dumped into storm or sanitary sewers by industry itself?

I know this has been a criticism at one time back home where caustic sodas, I understood, were dumped in by one of the industries and it ended up in the Detroit River. By the time your department gets down to look at the problem, it is already over with.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I want to say is that in your area, for example, there are surface treatment sites. Goodfellow is one operator that has a couple of plants in your area.

There is the subsurface disposal that we have been talking about. I do not think there is any question that at the present time some of this waste is being disposed of down a manhole, or even in a river or in the lake because of the lack of proper sites.

Mr. B. Newman: Right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And the difficulty has been, as I mentioned after the closing of Stouffville, that nobody wants a liquid waste disposal site in their community.

Goodfellow, for example, has tried to establish one in this area and in different places; and your colleague in the Legislature from Sarnia is aware of that, because he has worked with this company trying to establish sites. But every time the land is purchased and we are about to start the operation there is local citizen objection for some reason or other.

So this has been a tremendous problem to us and that is why we moved into Mississauga and bought this land where we knew it was zoned industrial. As far as the existing bylaws were concerned they would accommodate this type of operation, but even then we had to have a public meeting to satisfy the local people in that area, and I do not know if they are still completely satisfied.

Anyway, we are going ahead now in Mississauga. But in the meantime I am concerned about where this waste is going, because there is an awful lot of it being generated.

Mr. B. Newman: The thing that disturbs me is that all of a sudden we woke up to a mercury problem. Now I am afraid that we have no control or no records as to the amount of various types of chemicals being used in manufacturing processes and what disposition is made of all of these liquid wastes.

In other words we do not know whether they brought in, let us say for the want of a figure, 100,000 gallons of chemicals, and mixing water with that you ended up with maybe 200,000 gallons. They may have sent 100,000 gallons for disposal at a liquid waste disposal site, and the other 100,000 may have gone into the local sewer system.

Should the department not maybe require records from industry as to the amounts of certain chemicals bought and the eventual disposition? In other words, should it not know the gallonage and so forth of liquid wastes that are produced by the manufacturing processes and what happens to those liquid wastes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, all I would say to the hon. member is that we know exactly what waste is being generated in this area. We know how much, we know the type.

Mr. B. Newman: Liquid waste you are referring to?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. We know the industries that are generating this waste and the byproducts; what industries and their types. We have all that information.

The information was gathered both privately and publicly by our branch during the last couple of years, generally to have an idea what size plant would be necessary in Mississauga. We know how much waste is being generated.

We have, of course, laws and regulations in our statutes to control and prevent the illegal dumping of this waste. The important thing now is to make sure there is some facility that can accept this waste and properly treat it.

Mr. B. Newman: The thing is, Mr. Minister, it would not have been necessary for me to have written to your department concerning one of the local—oh, I do not know what you would call it, junkyards so to speak—which purchased a whole series of transformers, but in the course of dismantling the transformers they allowed all of the oil wastes to go into the local sewer system. Had you a record of all of this?

Apparently your records are not as accurate as you think they are, because on the purchase of those transformers in the first place, your department should have known there was a certain amount of oils contained in those transformers and you should have known just exactly where they were going. They ended up by going on Ford Motor Company property, and the oil, eventually, into the sewer system.

Even to today, I understand, though your department may have issued certain directives, those directives were not necessarily followed through. What check does your department make to see that they are followed out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In your area—which has a waste depot, I believe, in Windsor—if there is illegal dumping of industrial waste and we are aware of this—you can appreciate these trucks are hauling continuously and we can inspect as much as possible—we can follow these trucks and make sure that the truck goes to a proper disposal site or a proper depot. We can certainly act on any complaints. We have the power, when there is illegal dumping of these wastes, to take action.

All I am saying is that in this area we have to have this new facility because there are not sufficient facilities in this area now to accept all the waste that is generated here. There should be no problem in your area of the province because there are facilities.

It is like anything else—it is like that smoke that is a contravention of our air pollution laws, or the illegal dumping of waste, or the illegal dumping of improperly treated sewage. Action can be taken against these people.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, the one case I referred to was the purchase of a whole series of transformers, each containing approximately, I understand, 500 to 1,000 gallons of oil. Those transformers that remained in the junkyard, apparently in the course of dismantling, had all of their oil drained on to the ground. It seeped through the ground, went into the sewage system and ended up in the Detroit River. The minister's department did not know anything about that.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): They denied it. They still do not know anything about it.

Mr. B. Newman: They do know about it because I got a letter from, if I am not mistaken, Mr. Caplice in the department.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The hon. member is talking about OWRC now.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, it eventually ended up in the water system, that is true.

But the minister should know that this liquid waste is in the transformers and there should be some controls so that it does not go into the ground. It should be disposed of in the proper fashion.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Root.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I realize with the tremendous growth in our population that there is the problem of getting rid of industrial waste. The area that I represent—particularly the southern part—is close enough to the large developments that they are looking for sites there; the urban areas look to the rural areas for a site to dispose of their waste.

I realize there is some economy where a group of municipalities bands together. The question that I wanted to ask—maybe this is a suggestion, maybe not just a question—I wondered if it would not make it more palatable to the municipality in which the treatment works are located if there was a special assessment on garbage disposal areas or treatment works, because a little bit of money could have quite an influence on the municipality that has to take the waste from their neighbours.

I think it might make it more palatable if you could say to the local council: "You can have extra assessment on this waste disposal area." At the present time—and I have run into this several times in my own riding—the municipality will say: "This is going to depreciate the value of our property and affect our assessment surrounding the waste disposal area." I am just throwing that out as a suggestion.

The minister may have thought of it, or he may want to think about it as he develops the programme. I know the minister cannot have all the answers here tonight. This is a continuing and expanding programme and I will just leave the suggestion with the minister.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, evidently the bell is for the vote. May I ask the minister: Has the minister passed the regulations under The Quarries Act—all the regulations?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This comes under The Department of Mines and Northern Affairs.

Mr. Ben: I appreciate it is under The Department of Mines and Northern Affairs, but exhausted quarries or gravel pits are now the prime dumping sites for garbage. They call them sanitary landfills. I suggest, Mr. Minister, with the utmost respect, that their use as such comes wholly within the jurisdiction of your department.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right, right!

Mr. Ben: And therefore, when these regulations are prepared, they should be prepared with the end view in mind; for example that nine chances out of 10, after the pit is exhausted as a source of gravel or sand, it is going to be used for what we now call a sanitary landfill site.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There are some quarries that, because of the porous nature of the rock and the possibility of leakage, are not suitable for sanitary landfill sites.

Mr. Ben: This is why I think the minister most certainly should have a word in preparation of the regulations with reference thereto.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We had better adjourn for the vote.

Mr. Ben: I think that by the time the vote is taken we will not have time to come back, Mr. Chairman. I suggest that we adjourn for the evening.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, we would be adjourning for the evening. There would be no

possibility of us getting back in time to carry on.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If we can just carry this vote. Is this vote carried?

Some hon. members: No.

Mr. Martel: No way.

Mr. Chairman: Thursday afternoon.

An hon. member: What time?

Mr. Chairman: Three o'clock.

The committee adjourned at 10.07 o'clock, p.m.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, May 6, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1971

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

(continued)

The committee met at 3:25 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. F. Young in the chair.

On vote 503:

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak to that. I am concerned—I want to direct my comments to the transportation, disposal and storage of industrial waste on land. As you are aware, outside my riding—frankly in the riding of the hon. member for Lambton (Mr. Henderson), although there are several wells in my riding—there is a natural phenomenon available. That is the caverns, many of which are used for the storage of natural gas but increasingly they have been used for the storage of waste from industry. Now this has been a matter of concern for many years. I am told by my colleague who now sits in the chair, the hon. member for Yorkview, that five years ago he brought to the attention of the House the horrendous situation that obtains at the former Canadian Oil property in Petrolia, Ontario.

I had the occasion to attend—and I know you were unavoidably absent; you wanted to attend—I attended with your colleague, the Minister of Mines and Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier), and our colleague, the member for Lambton, a significant tour of the total area and eventually a meeting that night with the farm people who were concerned directly with either the proximate or, more importantly, the ultimate adverse effects of this type of disposal on the quality of their water.

It goes without saying that we recognize, be we farmers or not, that a farm operation cannot continue without its own supply of water. It is financially not feasible that they look to public involvement to transport water to them, although it might have to come some day.

The first point I want to make is this, and I would think that the minister would probably concur with a quick yes. I do not think the public weal is well served with The Department of Mines being responsible

in any way, frankly, in connection with this storage procedure. I think it has come to under your department or eventually under The Department of the Environment as we conceive it.

Now the petroleum branch of The Department of Mines does have a function in connection with, for example, the production of petroleum products in the Province of Ontario and, I think rightly so, the storage of natural gas on a permanent or temporary basis. When it comes to the question of the disposal of industrial chemicals and industrial wastes, I think that should be your responsibility. The difficulty, as I see it, is that the geophysical expertise lies within that department. I really think that your department presently might well be served, and in particular this particular section of your department, by having geophysicists and geologists available to you.

I do not want to get into the question of the technical aspects of it. I have said in correspondence with your department and in correspondence with my constituents and correspondence with The Department of Mines that I, as a lay person and as a member, have to rely upon what I am told by those people who are knowledgeable. I am not going to say supposedly knowledgeable. We presume that they are knowledgeable.

I wanted to bring that to your attention to begin with, but what I consider almost iniquitous, Mr. Chairman, and to the minister, is the fact that you are spending no money here at all in connection with research or apparently in connection with any professional expertise in relation to this whole question of waste disposal.

My colleague, the member for York Centre (Mr. Deacon), has just come back—he will be speaking at length in this particular debate shortly—he has just come back from Muskegon, Michigan. He brings to my attention that in connection with a similar type of situation obtaining in Michigan there are lawsuits prevailing from as far away as Wisconsin. From the people in the Windsor area, I have heard expressions of vital concern in connection with what might happen.

The only research that I know of, frankly, is research being undertaken by certain operators and certain good operators. For example, we have in our area the Goodfellow Enterprise Limited. Their operation is almost in direct conjunction with, I think it is, Tri-Can Engineering and this has to do mainly, of course, with the burning-off of phenol and other combustible industrial wastes. I do not know of any research that is being done privately or, more importantly, publicly in connection with the disposal of industrial wastes into the ground.

I want the minister to comment on why he is not spending any money in this connection. More importantly, let us get back to that Petrolia operation that caused concern to the member for Yorkview five years ago.

When we walked on to that land, Mr. Chairman, a minister of the Crown was almost insulted. We had the good fortune of having with us—I am sorry that I cannot recall the gentleman's name from London—but he was with us that day. He represents the waste management branch in London, I believe. Am I correct, sir?

An hon. member: Yes.

Mr. Bullbrook: Yes, in London. I am sure that he was concerned with this. That man came up and said, "What are you doing on my property? Nobody comes and looks at my property unless I permit him so to do." That whole operation, in my opinion, should be closed up tomorrow. It is a disgrace. I hear that you mentioned it five years ago, Mr. Chairman—and it was in that condition five years ago and nothing has been done—that gentleman has absolutely no knowledge and more importantly no concern, in my opinion, for the ultimate consequences of what he is doing.

It seems to me he talked about the analysis that was being done in connection with the product. I saw no chemical analysis or analytical availability on the site. It might have been down the block half a mile. There was a Star oil company truck disposing of waste from Windsor there at the time—dumping it into a holding tank, eventually for further dumping into these caverns.

I therefore now want to direct a question to the minister. Why no research here? We just cannot go blindly on, because the fact is that we have dealt, as a result of public impulse and impulse from members of this House, with air and water pollution to a great extent. There has not really been as

significant a concern expressed from the public viewpoint in connection with land pollution, and I am very much concerned here why the government is not doing something.

Frankly, a budget of \$387,000, I think, is absolutely minimal. It is a miniscule amount. My colleague says it is a disgrace. It might well be categorized as a disgrace but why do we not have something? Perhaps Sheridan Park is not the place for it. Perhaps we cannot invite the private sector in. I would like to see the private sector doing it.

I would like to see something happening and apparently you are in Mississauga involved now with people—I do not like to use this term—of fiscal integrity. Frankly that is part of the trouble. That fellow in Petrolia is a small-time operator and we cannot afford the luxury of small-time operators in this field.

I will just stop for a moment. I would like to have the floor again. I would like to ask the minister, why no research here? Surely you must be as concerned as we are?

Mr. Chairman: The minister has the question. Before the minister answers and not wanting to interrupt, the Chairman of the committee arrived some time ago, as a matter of fact, and I turn the committee over to the Chairman at this point.

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Chairman, to answer the hon. member's question, first of all there is a research grant of \$40,000 from the department to the University of Waterloo and their industrial research institute. This is the third year of a programme dealing with the disposal of waste, particularly in respect to leaching from waste sites or landfill sites. I think the hon. member has mentioned or implied that private industry, of course, is involved in research as a result of our legislation and our regulations. It has become quite involved in ways and means of developing byproducts from liquid chemical waste, as well as finding proper ways and means of safely disposing of this waste.

I do not think research in itself is the problem. I think the problem here is the setting up and acquiring and establishing of proper disposal sites, proper methods of disposal. In the hon. member's area that he has mentioned, there are both surface and subsurface facilities for the disposal of waste. But the fact is that there are not enough surface facilities. In the meantime, we have this subsurface method, which is, shall we say, surveyed and monitored and checked and ap-

proved mainly, as the hon. member mentioned, by The Department of Mines and Northern Affairs as well as requiring approval from the Ontario Water Resources Commission and the waste management branch of this department.

Mr. Bullbrook: May I ask—I interrupt for a moment—do you think there should be integration there?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, and I hope that this is part of the plan, frankly.

Mr. Bullbrook: Fine, I am sorry to interrupt.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The other thing I probably can touch on that the hon. member touched on is the meeting with the Minister of Mines and with the hon. member for Sarnia and the hon. member for Lambton. I think there is no question that people in that area have a certain amount of emotional feeling about it, and this is natural. They feel there is a possibility that their supply of drinking water may be in danger through the disposal of this waste.

My department feels, and I think it is also the feeling of The Department of Mines, that any subsurface treatment facilities must be such that they are much deeper than the water tables. For example, the Cambrian disposal wells for the most part are acceptable. We feel that they are probably comparable to surface treatment, but some of the Detroit River formations, as the hon. member knows, are questionable.

Certainly these are for temporary disposal only. This is only an interim measure.

Mr. Bullbrook: Do you think they should be used in the Detroit River formations? I think it is a hazardous thing.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In view of the concern of the people in that area, and because there is some question of the wells' suitability for classifying them as interim disposal sites, it is quite possible that we will have to say they are not satisfactory and discontinue their use.

The concern we have—and this is going on now—is the sort of clandestine dumping that can go on. It is certainly going on around Metro Toronto because of the lack of adequate facilities, and it probably is going on in the western section of the province. This, of course, could certainly have a worse effect on the water quality in that area than our present method of subsurface disposal.

We are looking into this. As I say, it is not a question of the lack of knowledge really, so much as it is a question of proper sites.

Mr. Bullbrook: I appreciate those comments. If I might be permitted to continue, I will not be too much longer.

I want to get to what I consider the essential aspect of the whole question of government and free enterprise involvement with the ecology. I realize that is a large philosophical statement, but you see, it obtains in industrial waste disposal I think more directly than it does probably in air pollution and in water pollution, because in those situations you have a general involvement.

For example, take the chemical valley. Except for the mercury situation perhaps, who is to attribute a deterioration of water quality just to Dow Chemical or just to Imperial Oil or just to Cabot Carbon?

The point I make there is you have a total highly intensified industrial complex that is involving the air and involving the water. I must say I think industry is making a sincere attempt, and has made a sincere attempt over the years, to relieve the situation and accept its responsibility.

But you might hearken back to a letter I directed to the Minister of Mines, and I think I directed a copy of it to the minister—I am sure I did. That talked about the question of, in effect, guessing—now that is not a happy phrase to use because, as I sat there that night in Petrolia and listened to the geologists representing The Department of Mines, I came to almost the positive conclusion that the involvement in the Cambrian strata is not going to adversely affect the water quality of the farmers in the area. I almost came to that conclusion.

But the problem is this, what if it does? Because questions were asked—and the minister is correct, the emotional charge was significant.

And I say as a member of the opposition, I was written up in the Petrolia paper as being less than a Liberal because I came to the defence of the Minister of Mines in this respect—that I thought those attending the meeting were being unduly emotional and sometimes unfair. But that is understandable. I do not chastise them for that and I hope that if anybody takes this comment that I make, they put it in the total context that I do not chastise them for that.

Because one can say, Mr. Chairman, if they are going to lose their livelihood—if

they lose their water—they should be emotionally involved.

The essential point is this, sir. Who is responsible if we make a mistake? Do you remember that question in my letter? And that is the whole question that is involving the people of Ontario, the people of Canada, the people of the world in connection with our industrial processes.

If we do make a mistake—if I am wrong in accepting the fact that Cambrian disposal will not adversely affect water quality and we find sometime in the future that it did, surely then, sir, we cannot say to them, "Sue the people who put it in the ground"? The people who put it in the ground might not be there any more.

I invite you, therefore, to consider under this vote the establishment of what we have called for—some type of environmental fund. You are going to have to.

It is going to have to be a responsibility of industry in doing business to set aside some type of contingency fund. It has to be, in my respectful opinion, a government responsibility.

We just cannot in the future say to farmers, collectively or individually, or to fishermen, collectively or individually, "You have rights in tort. You go to court, they have adversely affected the quality of your water." If we as legislators representing the farmers are going to say, "In my respectful opinion the department is correct," and we find the department is wrong, surely, to use the vernacular, you must get us off the hook?

I am not interested myself in being off the hook. It might be my successor 50 years from now, but those people are entitled to know this and this is what I told them that night.

They are entitled to look to government for this response. That is: "If our expertise is wrong—if we have permitted industry to use your environment to your adverse effect—then we are going to be responsible to you." That really has to be the fundamental question to be answered by government and, frankly, Mr. Chairman, by the minister's proposed Department of the Environment.

I exhort the minister to take this position.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, there is no question that if they ask the question, "Who is responsible?" certainly people will feel that we are certainly the most responsible. Particularly if it involves some dilatory results because we allowed certain methods of

disposal, for example, which were wrong and which contaminated water or in some way affected our resources.

If we legitimize this type of thing and it turns out that it was wrong and years later it had an adverse effect on the resources it would be natural, of course, for the people affected to look to the government for some sort of compensation.

I think some sort of contingency fund was proposed before, probably by the hon. member. I think we got into this when we were discussing the whole Murphy problem and we are still considering it. Whether it is some form of a compensation board, such as we have under The Workmen's Compensation Act or some type of fund where the polluter, or the source of pollution, cannot be identified—

Mr. Bullbrook: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —then the government, because it did benefit in some way from this industry, should be prepared—

Mr. Bullbrook: Even if it can be identified.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If it cannot be identified, probably it would be like the Workmen's Compensation fund where that company could be involved.

Mr. Bullbrook: But if it can be identified and they are still engaged.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Bullbrook: I think I make my point clear and I do not think that we are really at odds, are we? I think we see the need for this.

I am going to close in saying this. I have tried to be reasonable and not be nasty. Now I am going to be nasty. You know it is unconscionable for you to say that you have given a grant of \$40,000 to the University of Waterloo to do research in disposal of industrial waste. You know that the salary alone of the head of the mathematics department at the University of Waterloo is over \$40,000 a year. Where in heaven's name is the balance? Where is our concern?

I say this to the minister: Were I the minister sitting in your position, I would not let my cabinet colleague slough me off with any \$40,000, when the Minister of Education can throw away money, when The Department of University Affairs and the universities and community colleges of this province can too. Forty thousand dollars to some of them, sir,

is nothing. They blink their eyes at it, and yet you say you are prepared to give a grant of \$40,000 to study the disposal of industrial waste in this province. One of the most significant matters involving the life of the people of the Province of Ontario is the disposal of industrial waste, especially in the urban environment. And we are prepared to spend \$40,000 in research.

I say to you without reservation they have hoodwinked you, and I say to you without reservation you are attempting to hoodwink us by having us accept it; \$40,000 is nothing. You should be establishing under this particular vote your own section of research.

You should not be relying on the students and their professors at the University of Waterloo to do your job for you. You should be establishing a research centre in connection with domestic waste. But, as far as I am concerned, and as far as the context that I want to involve myself in—industrial waste—is concerned I say to you again, industry might have to pay for it. They might pass it on to the public at large but, at least, then there would be a diffusion amongst the public at large of the total responsibility.

But I really say to you, as I look at these expenditures—salaries and wages \$212,000—I do not even want to talk about salaries and wages of \$212,000, Mr. Chairman. Surely these people are spending that money in the proper pursuit of their responsibilities. I want to invite you to consider, and I want my colleagues on the government side to consider what this government is spending to research this problem. The fact is that they are not prepared to do it themselves under the direction of that minister, they are prepared to leave it to a university to make recommendations and pilot projects in connection with the whole question. I say to you that you really have abdicated that responsibility that you said you would take. You and I have had this out in the House. You said you would undertake that responsibility, and if you did, then, goodness gracious, why talk about \$7.5 million today for incentive programmes in some way to assist as far as unemployment is concerned?

Unemployment, in my respectful submission, is not important compared to the life of the people of the province. Overly dramatic, perhaps, but it is a fact, and I do not know but I wish you would respond in anger to me so that you could give me some justification for the fact that you will only spend this amount of money.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to say that, if the head of that department at Waterloo is making \$40,000, the hon. member and I are in the wrong racket.

Mr. Bullbrook: Listen! I want to tell you something just as an interjection. Not only is that his salary, he doubles his salary in doing consulting mathematical engineering work. Do you not realize what goes on in the Province of Ontario in the field of university affairs and education? Goodness gracious! We are hoodwinked every day. I have been talking about it for three years, and they will only give you \$40,000 for research. Where are the priorities, sir?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Now, Mr. Chairman, getting back to some of the hon. member's submissions, I cannot help but get back to the point I made before. There is no question that we need research. There is always a need for continuing research in perfecting methods of disposing waste, whether it is solid or liquid, but in this particular instance, the chemistry is well known. We know what we have to do to dispose of industrial liquid wastes properly and safely. As the hon. member well knows, one of the problems is to get municipalities and areas to allow the setting up of facilities to take on waste.

Mr. Bullbrook: There is no problem. You have got to—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No problem? All right—

Mr. Bullbrook: Now wait a minute; you have got to let me finish.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I want to finish now. You have said your piece; let me finish. Enniskillen, which is not too far from you—

Mr. Bullbrook: You tell Enniskillen what you want done.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Here is a bylaw passed by the duly elected people and representatives of that municipality, and that bylaw is to prohibit the use of any land within the municipality for dumping or disposing of garbage, refuse, or domestic or industrial waste of any kind. This is common throughout Ontario.

Mr. Bullbrook: I know it is.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And particularly the member's part of the province.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Chairman, the minister recognizes that he is transferring respon-

sibility. It is only common sense that they would pass such a bylaw for their own self-protection. It is your onus to go to the total community of Ontario and say that we must have areas for the total well-being of the people of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you telling this committee that the province, or my department, should overrule the autonomy of the municipality—

Mr. Bullbrook: Absolutely I am telling you that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —people of the province?

Mr. Bullbrook: Certainly I am telling you that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I see.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): On a point of order, are you aware that this government within the last week has deprived northern Ontario communities of the right to set their own budgets—that they must come to The Department of Municipal Affairs to get approval for their budgets?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a different thing.

Mr. Martel: You are taking all the autonomy away from them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a different thing entirely. We are dealing with land.

Mr. Martel: You are taking the autonomy away from them, so what is the difference?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: A different thing entirely. We are talking about matters of disposal of water, which is a rather touchy, very delicate matter, dealing with local people.

Mr. Martel: But you were talking about autonomy.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. That involves autonomy certainly.

Mr. Martel: Well, you have deprived northern Ontario of its autonomy.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If you feel that we should amend The Municipal Act so that a local municipality has no say whatsoever in respect to the dumping of garbage or waste, I would say that you were in total disagreement with your colleagues.

Mr. Bullbrook: Let me ask you a question, then, in reply to that. Let us carry the logic of your position to its ultimate conclusion. Supposing every municipality in the Province

of Ontario passed the same bylaw as the township of Enniskillen. Then the minister who is charged with the environmental protection of the public of Ontario is faced with the fact that he has no place to dump industrial waste. Does he not think he has to act? Of course he has to act!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It just happens that very fortunately there are some municipalities in this province which will accept this responsibility.

Mr. Bullbrook: All right, then the bylaw of Enniskillen begs the question.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It does not beg the question. I am just telling you why we are having difficulties in establishing waste sites in areas where they need it the most and that is the hon. member's area, in Lambton and Sarnia, as well as in Metropolitan Toronto. This is the difficulty we are facing.

As the hon. member knows, when some of these companies try to establish in other areas of the province, they even go as far as to acquire the land and then there is local opposition, either at the council level or the citizen level. These are the problems we are running into.

It is not a matter of research or perfecting research. It is a matter of setting up surface sites to collect this waste. That is why the province has had to go and buy land in the town of Mississauga, some 50 acres of land, within a municipally zoned area where we, the Crown company, are not entirely bound by local bylaws, to set up this type of facility.

Mr. Bullbrook: This is the very thing I ask of you.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are doing that, but at the same time we do not want to get totally into this business because I cannot help but feel that as long as private industry is in the business of disposing of the waste it generates, we will get more perfection. We will get more research and above all, we will get more development of byproducts from this waste, because it is economically advantageous to industry to do that.

Mr. Bullbrook: May I say to the minister, through the Chairman, that really he is accepting the philosophy—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, sure.

Mr. Bullbrook: —that he is the ultimate person vested with the responsibility, notwithstanding municipal bylaws. I am sure

his departmental officials will agree with me here that there are industries and there are industries.

What happened, in effect, in the township of Enniskillen was that a fellow went in with a two-bit operation and almost was dumping it into their water supply. The minister's people know that—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They over-reacted with this bylaw.

Mr. Bullbrook: They over-react, but understandably they over-react. It is unfortunate that the minister did not have a chance to go to Petrolia and see that operation which, were I the minister, I would close down tomorrow. On the other hand—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Where would that waste go?

Mr. Bullbrook: Where would the waste go?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In the St. Clair River?

Mr. Bullbrook: No, it would not. I will tell you where the waste would go, I would make sure that it all went through to a good operation like Goodfellow and if there were not places that private industry, sufficiently capitalized with sufficient expertise, provided, then I would say, "I, as minister, have to provide them." I would provide them.

Mr. Chairman: Is the member finished?

Mr. Bullbrook: Fine, I have had my say and I very much appreciate the dialogue.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 503 carry? Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Yes. While we are talking about industrial waste, to carry on a little bit further, I have a letter here concerning the slag pile operated by Union Carbide company in our neighbourhood, and this is from a person in Welland, Ontario:

—that such a garbage site should exist on the edge of a residential area at all. The black dust from the pile, driven by the prevailing winds, comes into our homes and into our lungs and completely saturates our property. It destroys our gardens and in general makes life in the area unbearable.

I also find the target date of 1974 for the complete elimination of smoke from the plant to be completely unacceptable. There is at present no pollution index in the city and therefore no interim control of their smoke.

I am desirous to know the following points: At what time does the government intend to rid the community of this plague? After several phone conversations with officials of Union Carbide, the only fact I can establish is that they are quite unaware of the problem and that mine was their first complaint.

That is what he has to say about the Union Carbide slag pile in the city of Welland.

I am sure the minister is aware of the problem that exists with this company. It has been in existence, I think, for some 50 years. And I must apologize to you that I do not have my dirty pictures with me today. It would be very interesting to show this committee some of the problems that exist in this particular area.

This slag pile is quite an enormous one dumped in the city of Welland. There is no reason why the government should not have some policy on industrial waste to say that this slag could be used—and I am sure it could be used—for such things as roadways? I noticed a big slag pile in Sudbury, Ontario—Copper Cliff, I should say, at the International Nickel Company. They are using that for building roads in northern Ontario, they are using it for railroad beds and there is no reason why they could not use slag such as from Union Carbide—one could even go a bit further, to Algoma Steel in Port Colborne who are dumping their slag from the furnaces out into Lake Erie, and I think this must be prohibited. It must not be allowed to continue. This slag has a base of stone, it could be used for roadways, it could be used for backfill, it could be used for many things in a community. These materials can be reclaimed.

I know of cases of old quarries in the area, pits that are left vacant by the Canada Cement plant in Port Colborne, and I am sure that some of this waste could be put into these quarries. Take the Ford plant in Niagara Falls—the waste in glass alone that comes from this plant can be seen stockpiled through the countryside there. There must be some place to dispose of this. Are we just going to dump it out into open areas and spaces?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What is the complaint of the correspondent there?

Mr. Haggerty: The complaint is that he has been bringing this to the attention of government officials and—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What is the problem?

Mr. Haggerty: The problem is that if you are living within the area there and you have a \$25,000 or \$30,000 home—well, let us put it this way: The heavy winds, the prevailing winds, will pick that slag up and dump it on to the doorsteps and into their homes. There have been complaints raised by schools in the area too.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, of course, the hon. member knows the problem right there is zoning, is it not? You should not have homes next to a plant like Union Carbide.

Mr. Haggerty: How are you going to do this? This is something that happened years ago. Regardless of where you put the industry you are going to get a certain amount of waste whether it is heavy waste or air waste.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is a basic problem and it has to be dumped somewhere. Now, the member says, why do we not use some of it for roadways? I do not know, maybe there is some good, economic, technical reason why it is not used for roadways. You need rock, as you know, and stone for roadway base.

Mr. Haggerty: I can tell you, half of the city of Port Colborne was built on slag from the International Nickel Company in Port Colborne. Every homeowner's driveway was built by it and there is no reason today why this cannot be used instead of piling it out in the open fields and it is blown into somebody's backyard. This stuff will blow for miles, perhaps, by the wind. So how can you zone this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The other solution I could suggest is that—I do not know—for example with coal piles, as you know, they water it down as much as possible so it does not cause dust.

Mr. Martel: A little "rye on the rocks"?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. There is an example, of course, of the great efforts made by the International Nickel Company in Sudbury—

Mr. Martel: There are not enough officials in Port Colborne, that is why they did it for Copper Cliff.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But if, in fact, there is this type of carrying of the slag substance to people in the neighbourhood, we will have to find some way of eliminating that nuisance. Certainly there is a right of action. This is not considered a simple way of doing things, but there is a right of action against the company by an individual who suffers as a

result of this. We may have to limit the size of the stockpiles, or dump piles of slag. But really, as I say, it gets down to placing heavy industry of this type away from residential areas, away from areas in which people are located. As the hon. member says, probably the homes have been there a long time, the plant has been there a long time, and that is not the answer now.

All I can say is that I will have my officials look into it. I am sorry I did not see that letter.

Mr. Haggerty: There are other problems of industrial waste, too. The minister could get into this thing. It is quite a problem in my area. You can come into the farm waste problem. What are you going to do about hog producers or egg or broiler producers who set their plant up on a 10-acre site, or something like this, out in the rural areas?

What do you do with the waste from that? There is no place to dispose of it. This is the problem that I find in my area. People are complaining about it now.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member may know, we have what we call a code of practice that we have compiled for the agricultural community, particularly people involved in producing poultry, broilers, and other types of farming activity which generate a waste that becomes quite obnoxious.

Some of the waste, of course, is used on the land; otherwise it has to be disposed of in a proper way, whether it is through a septic system on that man's 10-acre parcel or whether it is through a sewage system.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you consult with The Department of Health on this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: I get many complaints. These farmers have been producing for some 20 or 30 years and there has been no problem at all. Now The Department of Health comes in and says, "You cannot go out and spread this on your land."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This responsibility rests with us.

Mr. Haggerty: It does, does it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And we work with The Department of Agriculture and Food, really, more than The Department of Health, with the idea of advising farmers who are involved in this type of industry and particularly who live fairly close to a buildup or

urban area where odour is a problem and where the disposal of waste can be a problem.

We have got, as I said, a code of practice, which tells or advises them of our regulations, of certain good housekeeping methods that can minimize the problem of the waste they generate.

Mr. Haggerty: One of the problems is that since regional government has come into the area, you have put farms in the cities and towns; of course, the bylaws say that you cannot do this, so this creates a hardship on the farmer in the area.

There is no doubt about it that there will have to be some regulations to control the waste. I do not think it should be done by threats, though; that is going to deprive a man of his earnings.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, but I think in many respects, the farm community, rightly or wrongly, felt because it was out in the country and these operations usually were a few miles away from the closest neighbour, that the problems that are developing now would never develop.

But, as the hon. member suggests, sooner or later a couple of hundred acres adjacent to farms is subdivided for residential homes; then you have the people there complaining about a farm operation that has been there for years and years.

All we are saying, in trying to co-operate with the farm community, is that here is a way to properly manage your farm, to properly look after your waste, to minimize the pollution that you may be causing; but, at the same time, we are not going to start closing you down because there is a certain amount of very normal and natural odours emanating from your operation. The people who move there should have expected this to some degree.

But I think our biggest concern, of course, is animal waste from slaughtering and processing, and regardless of where that farmer may be, we would have a concern to see that it is properly treated and disposed of.

Mr. Haggerty: The other problem is that I wish the minister had travelled on the train with me from Toronto to Welland yesterday. Coming through the city of Hamilton, travelling on the Canadian Pacific Railway—what a degrading sight it is to see that garbage site there in the city of Hamilton all along that railroad from the time that you hit the

escarpment until you leave it. There is nothing but waste scattered in that area. There must be a dump nearby but, I will tell you, they have just dumped it right over the banks of the escarpment and it has come right down along the railroad. What a horrible sight to see!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean that is right along the bay?

Mr. Haggerty: Right along the bay—all the way through there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is a sanitary landfill site, but I believe it is on the other side of the highway.

Mr. Haggerty: I believe they must be putting it all on the railroad. I mean, the railroad is bad enough here in the Province of Ontario! When one travels the railroad you can see the waste material that is lying there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is a park right up there and I think that stuff is going over the banks.

Mr. Haggerty: Boy, I do not know what it is, but it is rather sickening to see that right in the Province of Ontario, when we are trying to get it cleaned up.

The other problem I wanted to bring to the minister's attention is municipal waste. Not too long ago I happened to be going into my therapist on a Saturday morning, and on one side there is a doctor's office. I called out the therapist and said, "What is that down there?" I knew what it was. He said, "That is a syringe."

Of course, there is a problem of drugs in my area—I think all through the Province of Ontario. It is very easy for these things to become accessible to people, the children and youths in our area. I know it has been brought to my attention from a person in Port Colborne that at the municipal garbage site there, which is done by landfill, the youngsters came home from there with a six-quart basket of syringes one day.

Apparently, there is not enough care taken in disposing of syringes from medical institutions or doctors' offices. I was wondering if there should not be a tighter control so that all these should go back to the hospital and be disposed of there. They have boilers and heating facilities where they can melt these down to a certain degree so they are not usable again.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is this the Welland site?

Mr. Haggerty: Port Colborne—it was brought to my attention there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is that a sanitary landfill site or is it just a dump?

Mr. Haggerty: It is a sanitary landfill site.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think one of the problems—and something that we are trying to cure as a result of our new legislation—is to upgrade these dumps and sanitary landfill sites to make sure that there is not only regular movement of garbage and earth—that is, that there is truly sanitary landfill—but that there is proper fencing around these sites and that there are proper attendants, that there is somebody there at all reasonable times and that the dumps are open at all reasonable times so that the public cannot trespass.

Mr. Haggerty: The point that I am trying to get through to you is on these syringes. Perhaps they are put in a plastic bag and set out on the streets waiting for garbage pickup and the bag breaks open and a youngster sees them on the street and starts picking them up.

I know of a young girl in my area who did that and died through using a needle that was unsanitary. I think that in something like this there should be tighter controls by your department—tell the medical profession that the syringes must go back to one centre and be disposed of.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Haggerty: The other matter was raised, I think, by one of the members the other night—the recycling of paper. I think this can be done. I did some work one time at the Alliance Paper Mills in Georgetown installing gloss-coaters and coating machines—this is where a coloured dye is run through the paper; any colour that you want. There is no reason why, if the material is printed like this, it cannot be recycled and used over again with special dyes for different colours of paper.

I know there is a place in Thorold, Ontario, that recycles waste paper. They make hard-board out of it, I believe, for building products.

There is another matter, Mr. Minister. In travelling by railroad again, I came through the city of St. Catharines and I saw that sluice that comes down through the city of St. Catharines. I am sure you are familiar with this waste that comes down the sluice—what

would you call it, the foam? It is a solid material that rides the crest of the water; it is about that heavy, and of course it ends up in Lake Ontario.

I understand that they are supposed to be putting in a recycling programme there to reclaim some of this material. Is that so, and when will this be completed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: St. Catharines?

Mr. Haggerty: St. Catharines. There is a big paper mill there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, right. You mean the foam in that old canal?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, the old canal.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, we have got those plants, particularly the paper mills there, all in a pretty stringent programme. And we hope, of course, that not only with the programmes they have, but with the efforts we can make through OWRC—

Mr. Haggerty: Waste fibres, I guess it is.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. We hope we can get rid of that foaming.

Mr. Haggerty: When?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: At the present time it is nothing more than an open cesspool, really. These programmes mature, I think, in stages. But I would think the outside date is about 1974. We hope there is the possibility of diverting this old canal in a way that the area that is by the new park there does not look as unsightly as it does now.

Mr. Haggerty: It could come right down beside the golf park too.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. Getting back to the point you made about syringes. We are working with The Department of Health, I understand, and are requesting that hospital staff crush these needles and other vials containing any type of poison in a way that, when they are ultimately disposed of, they cannot be useful or in any way of interest to the public. We have sent out a bulletin from the waste management branch to the people in authority in the various institutions, and it is entitled, "The Management of Institutional Wastes." I could give the hon. member a copy of this, and it probably even includes mercury.

Mr. Haggerty: I suggest that you move on it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Lawlor.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a few moments before rushing upstairs on legislation, I would like to touch on some aspects of incinerators, particularly with respect to the apparent policy of this department and this minister to encourage, either tacitly or openly, the setting up of incinerators in builtup areas of the province.

The minister knows that I have particularly in mind a proposed, spanking new 1,600-ton-a-day incinerator located plunk in the middle of my riding and which will be heard by the Ontario Municipal Board, the first of a series of hearings, I suspect. I see on the last evening that we sat on the debate that there was a proposal for two, four, five incinerators—new, as far as I can discover—in the minister's statements. There is certainly already budgeted in Metropolitan Toronto a sum of money, the first levy being \$10 million, for a second incinerator somewhere in the metropolitan area, I suspect in the north of Etobicoke, south Vaughan area; it has already been mooted and under way.

I just wonder how far the department has gone in exploring alternatives to this particular method; my contention being that while you may argue that your incinerators are virtually foolproof and that you are using all kinds of modern devices such as precipitators and moving grates and what not, and your temperature readings are very high to incinerate, first of all it takes a great many products—which would be a benefit to future generations of human beings—out of existence. That is, in the form of energy or in the form of matter in which they presently exist. All kinds of zincs and various types of metals are being taken out and cannot be replaced; they are lost to this earth. They may take a different form, the conservation of energy theory, but, the fact is, they are no longer usable in the form in which they are useful. And you are promoting that cause in building incinerators.

Incinerators by and large, probably in most builtup areas, particularly with residences within a short distance, are the straw that will break the camel's back. Even if they only emitted five per cent pollutants—particulate matter of sulphuric dioxides into the atmosphere—that is inadmissible in this area.

Has the minister, as a first question, explored the possibilities of using railway cars of various kinds to transport such waste out into the hinterland into non-builtup areas, where their benefiting utility can be gained?

The two methods being used, of course, are, on one side the business of incineration, and on the other side the business of landfill sites. Down the middle, still a fledgling child, is the business of recycling.

To deal with the second one first, the business of landfill sites. The Wyllie Ufnal study made for Metropolitan Toronto, of which the minister is no doubt aware, came down hard several years ago on landfill as the best alternative, but Wyllie Ufnal was not very up to date on landfill. The proposal that I have heard from the lips of a certain Gordon Sutton, engineer of Hamilton who designed your new plant in Hamilton, is that all kinds of adverse effects that have arisen in the past out of landfill and made it unacceptable to many people can be obviated and eliminated.

For instance, in the kind of compacting that is done by the Hamilton plant and in the studies made in Minnesota, where they have a plant—and set forth in Sutton's papers which he will distribute gratis to anybody who wants them because he is caught up with this thing—in the business of, say, the methane gases, under his form of compaction under the degrees of pressure being used, there would not be accumulations of methane gas, which cause explosions. It blew up the place in Centennial Park in Etobicoke not so long ago, and of course is a danger. Not only that, but it gives off very noxious odours.

The second in respect to rats; again, the kind of compaction that this man has put forward, and which is actually in operation in this province, would eliminate rats because it is so compacted that no longer is the vegetable and edible matter attractive to rats.

On the other hand it is compacted in such a way that its vegetable effects, in the form of regeneration of ground, of making for park sites—admittedly you would not be using the landfill for building site for quite a while because of recessions in the ground—but you could make marvellous parks out of it, and parks which have none of these detrimental side effects that have been obtained up until now, and which the people of South Vaughan, for instance, very greatly take exception to as in a place called Thackeray.

So that landfill, without undue cost, can be made a very acceptable method of disposal of garbage, and in the way in which he compacts it he can get it down to one-fifth or more of its present bulk content. Therefore, the particular landfill site would last, I suspect, five times as long, which has always proved a sore spot as to the emergent filling,

for instance, of the south Thackeray site here in Metro.

That is one side of the coin. It has not been, I suspect, thoroughly explored. I wish, rather than pollute the atmosphere of the great cities and of the builtup areas any further by simply wringing your hands over the necessity of disposal and therefore the necessity for incinerators—you damn them with faint praise and say on one side of your mouth that they are regrettable things, but what else can we do—that a real utilization of what is even now the technology at your disposal would change that whole picture. And I am asking, prevailing upon the minister to give some thought to that particular aspect of the matter and to the utility of ways of getting it out of the great cities.

The Sutton site, too, in Hamilton, utilizes a certain recycling; at least the ferrous and non-ferrous metals I think—I could be corrected—are taken out and retained in production. Certainly at least a partial or limited approach to recycling ought to be acceptable to this government, both with respect to the preserving of the minerals and with respect to the types of temperatures and what not that would be used in these incinerators.

In the course of this I would have some questioning to do with your ambient air standards and with your criteria as to whether an incinerator should go in to an area or not.

I would like to know: Precisely where do you arrive at your figures? I mean, I think what happens in all discussions with Ross Clark and others is this, in that your figures are somehow sacrosanct, not to be questioned. Are they in line with, and derived from, scientific interrelationships with other municipalities and other jurisdictions? And just how active are they with respect to the deleterious effect on human health that these various kinds of chemicals have in this particular matter which gets into the lungs, causes emphysema, chokes people, and causes early death?

Here you are in this city alone—of recent date, I think it was April 12 of this year—giving out with an index count of 52, and the index count is quite a distinct thing from your other criteria. It is reckoned on a different principle and I would like to hear more about that in terms of explanation of what the difference between the two is. But here you hit 52 which means that you—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, could we leave that until we get to the other vote? I do not mind dealing with waste disposal—

Mr. Lawlor: I may never get back.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, I see. All right.

Mr. Lawlor: There is The Succession Duty Act sitting up in the House.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will have to do some shuffling.

Mr. P. J. Yakubski (Renfrew South): We are on vote 503, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Lawlor: I am talking about incinerators, I am dead on.

Mr. Yakubski: Well, forget about the pollution count then.

Mr. Lawlor: No, I cannot because it affects incinerators. The incinerators are the things that are causing the pollution count.

You had us put down, or cut back on, the operation of many municipal utilities, Hydro and your incinerators in Toronto which admittedly are working far below optimum level: Wellington Street, for instance—or the Commissioner Street one, maybe it is—on which you are going to spend \$7.5 million, or somebody is, in the very near future trying to rectify a very bad condition.

With that kind of count in mind, how can you possibly justify the imposition upon people in the face of prevailing westerly winds of any added, however small the increment may be, particulate matter; or of the oxides of nitrogen; or any of the other things that come out of these stacks upon the inhabitants of this area? It is certainly inadmissible. The only grounds you can possibly justify yourself on are economic grounds. You say, "What are we going to do? The cost is too great to do anything else."

I think that the whole, full method has not been explored. I think that your pilot plant, for instance, in Kingston with respect to recycling ought to be tested somewhere else at the same time. In the metropolitan area you ought not inflict upon the citizenry any further incinerators until you have got the full results of that recycling.

I would like also to know what the range of emission is from incinerators; what kind of chemicals do come out of these stacks and precisely what effect they have upon the human being upon both his mind and his body. Because certainly the mental effects are pretty good, too. I understand, for instance, that carbon monoxide poisoning causes half the irritability in the breakdown of modern marriage because of the internal effects of

breathing in this foul air. You get home and you breathe out fouler air to your wife and this is the game. If you want the destruction of marriage in the Province of Ontario, go right ahead with your incinerators.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And use railroads.

Mr. Lawlor: You will make a greater contribution to the affliction of family life than any other individual, and it may please you very greatly.

An hon. member: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, what is the pollution index in this room right now? It seems pretty high to me.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Have you got a monitor around here?

Mr. Lawlor: Well, I shall leave it at that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, first of all I appreciate the hon. member's concern about the proposal by Metro Toronto to establish an incinerator in his riding. However, we understand now that we have received some conceptual specifications for this plant and we are satisfied that it is the most modern plant of its type with electrostatic precipitators of about 97 to 98 per cent efficiency.

We were talking just the other night on this vote about some plants which were in operation in Germany and it is my understanding that this plant will be of a similar type.

Mr. Lawlor: At Frankfurt?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. I think we were talking about a figure of somewhere near \$20 million as the figure that has been reported that this new plant will cost. We are talking about the possibility of steam as fuel for Hydro and we also understand that it will have a chain grate continuous feed with water tube boilers to remove heat. The air quality monitoring that we have data on and records of indicates that certainly this incinerator will not breach our standards in any way.

The hon. member discussed sanitary landfill sites and, of course, this is a continuous debate as to which is the better method of disposing of waste. We have the problem of aesthetics with landfill sites; we have the problem of finding land close to the urban area that can be used for this purpose. We have a situation, for example, in Kleinburg now where it is proposed to establish a sanitary landfill site in that area. I might say in the vernacular that all hell has broken loose because the people in that area feel

that we should be using incinerators and not taking up expensive, attractive areas for sanitary landfill sites.

The hon. member mentioned using railway cars. It just happens that we are looking into this method of removal of waste to landfill sites well outside the city. What we have to do now is determine the economics of such a proposal. The McLaren report, I understand, of about 1966, covered various alternatives and concluded, I think quite naturally, that incinerators in the core area and landfill for the other parts of Metro would provide the best solution.

I do not think it is necessary to rehash this situation in Metropolitan Toronto. There are about seven incinerators in operation in this city now and none of them really is completely satisfactory to us.

Mr. Lawlor: How about the Dufferin?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not think that is up to our standards, is it? It is the best, but we are not entirely satisfied.

Mr. Lawlor: Can you give me an idea what efficiency it is giving? Is it 90 per cent?

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Decimal eight per cent.

Mr. Lawlor: Decimal eight per cent?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: By building the one that is proposed for the Etobicoke area I think we will probably only require three for the total Metro area—is that about right?—rather than the seven we have now.

We have a situation, as the hon. member knows, where this is still the responsibility of the metropolitan council. I would assume that the area in the hon. member's riding is zoned industrial?

Mr. Lawlor: That is what the hearing is about.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. You have the advantage and the further protection of an OMB hearing, when the metro officials and all their technicians and experts will have to justify the location of that incinerator in that area. You have the other problem, of course, which is very real—that people become quite concerned and parochial that the township of Vaughan, or something like that, would be the dumping ground for Metro. Is that right, Mr. Hodgson?

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): I think so; we had this in Whitchurch.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You have this locally in Whitechurch. This is the concern. There is no question that regardless of what we establish these days—and I suppose this is all part of the new ethic—whether it is a sanitary land-fill site, an industrial liquid waste site or an incinerator, people object. We are attempting to do as best we can to make sure that these various methods are perfected; that the ecological deterioration from these facilities is at a minimum; and somehow convince people that we are not from that hot place and trying to disturb their peace, order and well-being and the use, the enjoyment, of their property.

The emissions, I believe, that we will be concerned with, of course, are of particulate matter which will be monitored. We have as the hon. member—

Mr. Lawlor: On the site?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would think so, sure, in order to establish that a new incinerator would meet our criteria. The plant to which the hon. member refers in Kingston, I think, as the hon. member may remember, we have, I think it is Travellers Insurance in Hartford that are involved in establishing a model whereby we can measure the possibility of air pollution in a certain area, given certain conditions. I think, for example, it was used in respect to the development of the Spadina Expressway. We were able to say what might be the effect of that expressway, say around St. Clair or Eglinton, given certain conditions. This type of a model, which is a research model, can tell what the effect would be if we took a certain area and put in a plant of a certain type or a highway of a certain type or a shopping plaza of a certain type.

This, I believe, is being used in the establishment of waste disposal sites and the purpose of all this research in surveillance and experimentation that goes on here is to see what the effect will be on people. I think people should be reasonable and not imagine that what is planned, for example, for Etobicoke, is the same as exists by way of an incinerator in the city at the present time. New facilities are a lot different. I do not want to go so far as to say that this new facility will just look like a beautiful nurses' residence with a stack, but I think it is probably about like that.

Mr. Lawlor: That is the way he describes it, as a gothic temple with a stack. I have just a few more words on this. When you give me figures for 96 and 98 per cent

efficiency, it bothers me because things just do not work that way.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, not up to now.

Mr. Lawlor: Any mechanical moving part, or any part or thing that man has invented does tend to fall off to a degree in six months from now or a year from now. There are \$20 million being spent on this particular facility at this time. I dare say the life of an incinerator, as I understand it, is about 10 years at the very most, and maybe even less because of heat and what not. Surely its capacity falls by real margins as six months or a year goes by. When your good man appears before the board, I would like him to give some thought to just that basis.

Secondly, of course, this is a very elementary and almost infantile phase. We really do not know. You are using the best methods you can, I suspect, for estimating it, but it is relatively new in the world. When you say about the on-going research, you do not know what the biological effects on health of these emissions really are at this time. You are making some moves to try to offset them, but you may discover before long that in case of the nitrogens that any emission in this area is simply inadmissible in terms of human health. Then you would be forced to shut down the place, cut back, just as you are cutting back at your present facilities throughout the metropolitan area every time the index rises up to an unacceptable point.

This is getting worse. The index is creeping up all the time. You have more frequent occasions on which it goes over the top. That means the incinerator, instead of being operative as it is supposed to be 24 hours a day in making its little contribution to the overall pollution of the area, is going to have to be shut down from time to time or, at least, cut back severely so your capacity will not be gained. So you are involved in a self-defeating mechanism.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, Mr. Chairman, I think, really in all fairness, the whole idea and basis of the air pollution index is based on health. The index and the readings of the index and the relation of sulphur dioxide and particulate matter is based on its relationship to human health. The readings, the figures of 32, 50 and 100, are in relation to the effect on individuals. I cannot help but feel that with the information we have now that probably the group that seems to be contributing most to the high index in Toronto as recorded by the monitor on College Street is institutions, the

Hearn plant—I am thinking of the hospital—and the incinerators.

Now there are moves and plans to improve those, but, of course, we are working on industry continuously and industry has to abide by our regulations. But the conversion and the partial conversion of Hearn, the elimination, the changes in these incinerators, the new hospital plant here and stack, when those are all in operation. I think any problems, which have been very minor as far as the index is concerned, will be that much less of a concern, and that much less of a problem.

Mr. Lawlor: Let me just say one final thing, Mr. Chairman, namely this, if we lose next week at the Ontario Municipal Board level, you and I never have, except for today, really locked horns on this particular issue. I should trust that we will have a visitation some afternoon at which we will really go into a snorter.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the hon. member attend the OMB hearing and use his great counsel expertise to cross-examine some of the experts from my department and, at least, do everything possible to bring out all the facts in relation to this incinerator, so that people realize just what the facts are and that the facilities we have had up to now, which are very primitive, have caused problems. But, you know, incinerators have not killed anybody yet. In any event, those facilities that are existent now are very primitive. The improvement will be so tremendous that even somebody living next door to this facility, I do not think, is going to suffer as a consequence. Now, that is on the record.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Just a minute, Mr. Ben. Mr. Martel is next on my list.

Mr. Ben: I appreciate that, but it arises from what Mr. Lawlor was saying, because I am his neighbour, and it is in reference to the same incinerator.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The hon. member has just arrived and, please, let us not go over the whole thing again.

Mr. Ben: No, but you promised that you would let us know how you arrive at this scale of figures that you use—32 and 50—and what it means in terms of content of sulphur dioxide. You are using the figures again—32

and 50. Just what does it mean in terms of content of pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is still under The Air Pollution Control Act.

Mr. Ben: I know it is under air, but you see, you are using the same answer to my learned colleague from my neighbour riding without making clear exactly what you meant by saying 32.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Before you came in the only thing the hon. member was dealing with was the incinerators as far as the method of waste disposal goes, which is the vote we are under now. And, by the way, he dealt with the possibilities of air pollution. But the hon. member wanted to know, I believe, what the reading of 32 means. Is that what you want to know?

Mr. Ben: In terms of content of sulphur dioxide.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might be able to read it this way: The air pollution reading equals 0.2, [30.5 multiplied by the coefficient of haze plus 126.0 multiplied by the sulphur dioxide in parts per million] all raised to the power of 1.35.

Mr. Martel: Do you get it now?

Mr. Ben: I will tell you what. I do not get it, but it is clear that the public is getting it from this minister.

Mr. Chairman: Are you on 504?

Mr. Martel: No, 503. Waste management.

Mr. Ben: May I have that formula please?

Mr. Martel: Waste management.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Give him that.

Mr. Martel: Vote 503.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 503?

Mr. Martel: Waste management. Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Carry on.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, I am wondering, we have heard a lot of discussion in the last two days on waste management—I am not getting to Inco yet, Mr. Chairman, do not panic. We will come to them later.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is there anything else up there?

Mr. Martel: Yes. I want to know how much study, Mr. Minister, is being done with

respect to the built-in obsolescence of things which we continuously have to get rid of through waste management. I think, for example, of disposable diapers, or I think of egg cartons. You know, a friend of mine came from Europe and he came over to get some eggs and he had a little plastic container, you know, for a dozen eggs, instead of having to throw out the eggs as we get them, in a container. You throw them out.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: He brought them with him?

Mr. Martel: No, he brought the container, the plastic container. Mr. Minister, I am wondering how much study is being done in that area of where we are deliberately creating the impression of getting rid of things? You know, disposable this and disposable that. How much study is being done to curb that sort of thing?

We have a capacity in the western world, North America in particular, to be using up raw materials, raw resources. The rest of the world could not even match it, and ultimately it is doing about three things. It is utilizing our raw materials much quicker than they should be used, then we end up in the final analysis of trying to have to get rid of that waste, and it can go on ad infinitum.

We talk about returnable bottles for pickles instead of just stuff that we dispose of. How much study is being done in the field of re-utilizing things, rather than just disposing of everything? That is the first point I would like to raise with the minister. They are rather disjoined so I do not want to go on, you know.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, the only thing is, Mr. Chairman, it is a matter of convenience, it is a matter of public acceptability, it is in the same area as the non-disposable or non-returnable container. Certainly as a father I know that disposable diapers were a tremendous innovation, especially if you are travelling with your children.

Mr. Martel: Travelling, yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. But now they are talking about disposable panties. I am against it. Now, egg cartons I understand—

Mr. Martel: Just samples, though, that I am using, Mr. Minister. I am just wondering how much—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Does the member not like my samples?

Mr. Martel: Yes. The minister is using the same ones that I used.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What type of study is the member doing?

Mr. Martel: What study is the minister doing as a department to try to discourage this appetite we have for using up our natural resources and ultimately having to fork over the money to dispose of this material?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Does the member want a quote on it?

Mr. Martel: We have to get ahead.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What type of a study would the member suggest? We know that a disposable diaper, for example, causes more ecological impairment than a diaper that is being reused, and reused, and reused. You do not need a study on that.

Mr. Martel: All right, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We know the amount and what it is causing as far as the disposal of waste. It is a great tax on our sanitary landfill sites, whether it is a bottle, or a bag instead of a box. The whole thing is a problem, but it is a matter of the demands and wishes of the public.

Mr. Martel: Now, wait a minute. The demands and wishes of the public are created by the advertising which goes on.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no. Not so much that as the product itself. I do not underestimate the intelligence of people that much. I think that these products are put on the market because they know that they will sell because they are convenient.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Convenient?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are very convenient. This is a new philosophy and it involves, as I say, the disposable container—the no-return bottle. It involves the whole matter of waste, of reusing material as opposed to a one-shot move or turning into waste things that we have used for years and years, over and over again. Now it is becoming something that we can use once, such as an egg carton.

As the hon. member knows, up until recently this was the habit of most distributors of eggs. Your egg man usually picked up your empty carton and gave you a new carton of a dozen eggs, or it was just in a paper bag

or something. This is what happened in the Maritimes until recently. Of course, they are still using horses down there so it may not be a good comparison or good analogy.

But whether it is convenience for the manufacturer, whether it is more profitable for him, or the retailer, or to the satisfaction of the little woman, I do not know. But the question here is, how far does government interfere? I do not think we need to look into the pros and cons of it. We know what it is causing. The question is, how far does the government interfere? How far does the government bring in prohibitive legislation?

Mr. Martel: The minister says he knows what it is costing. John Q. Public does not. If the supersalesman could spend \$800,000 advertising what a great place Ontario is, we might consider spending a similar amount which, in the final analysis, might save us a hell of a lot of money. If we could convince people of a lot of these things really—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, just as an example now—

Mr. Martel: Oh, it is no good. The minister feels he is doing his job anyway.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —and maybe it is not entirely on the same point. The great furor about phosphate in detergents—

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —or the great discussion regarding coloured tissue, and things like that, and what the housewife could do to minimize pollution by using phosphate-free detergents or white tissues and things like that. The information we have—and this has been compiled by private anti-pollution groups like CHOP and Pollution Probe and others in municipalities—indicate that the public is not that concerned. In other words there is no great reduction in the sale of these items that cause problems.

I suppose we could spend a few thousand more dollars to keep getting this message across. It is a question, really, of somehow balancing off the convenience, the attractiveness of these items or, as the member will probably say, make it impossible for these items to be available to the consumer.

Mr. Martel: For example, the minister gave the example of coloured tissue. If all the tissue was white, everyone would have to buy white tissue.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is what I am saying. You are saying “Ban coloured tissue,” are you not?

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is tomorrow's headline in the Sudbury Star.

Mr. Martel: All right. No, I have something better than that.

Mr. W. Hodgson: Wiped out.

Mr. Martel: Well I still think it is going to come to the day, Mr. Minister, in trying to preserve our natural resources and trying to combat the high increased cost of disposing of this material, that we are going to have to take some action in that field and in that manner; we are not going to be able to overcome it.

We can go on spending money now, but in the final analysis like the rest of pollution it is going to catch up with us until we reach a point where it is going to become uneconomical to do it. We should be doing it now.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In many respects you are saying that we should ration certain things, we should ration the amount of paper that is being used, ration the amount of coal, gas, oil—is that what you are saying?

Mr. Martel: No, I am not saying ration it, I am saying there are things that people are led to buy simply through the news media advertising. They place great emphasis on it, you have to buy it, and if you tell the people something often enough they are going to try it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is sexy.

Mr. Martel: I am not saying that. The one you suggested might be—well, I will move on to another topic; we are not making much headway there.

Mr. Chairman, on the Broder and Dill situation, for two and a half years I have been trying to get a dump site in that area. There are 4,300 people in those two townships. You have agreed that they would do a study in the city of Sudbury, taking into account Broder and Dill. However, Mr. Chairman, the garbage is being thrown in the bush and in the water courses; it is just being dumped everywhere, simply because it is an unorganized township and there is no proper place.

The Mine Mill people tell me that every spring they clean up their campsite, which is not a big campsite, and they have to send a man in for a week just to get the garbage off. We are not that close to getting a plant or a dump site in Sudbury, Mr. Minister, that we can continue to go on. Even the water is being affected in that particular area. Lands and Forests have been trying to get a site for over two years and cannot get one.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why?

Mr. Martel: The Department of Health has not approved the majority of the sites, and the owner does not want to sell the one that is suitable. But we still have the problem of what do we do with the garbage for 4,300 people. It is going into the bush and into the water courses, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Apparently our regulations do not apply to an unorganized municipal dump site.

Mr. Martel: There is no dump site whatsoever.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In an organized area, of course, we would require that one be made available. But there are how many people in that area?

Mr. Martel: Forty-three hundred.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Forty-three hundred. Why do they not organize?

Mr. Martel: We have been trying, but in face of the Kennedy study everything has come to a grinding halt for the past two years.

I requested the Minister of Municipal Affairs in the fall of 1969 that he allow them to go into some form of municipal government until such time as the Kennedy report was acted on. The answer was, "No, this is coming, this is coming." Well, it is still coming.

Mr. Yakabuski: You mean there is only one site in the whole area?

Mr. Martel: They will not sell their property.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are saying now that in spite of the efforts of the Lands and Forests department there still is no site?

Mr. Martel: No site, Mr. Minister. It is adjacent to the city. It is just a terrible scene; rats are running around.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Has The Department of Health been involved in this?

Mr. Martel: I have written them all, I just keep getting the runaround. We are providing Sudbury with funds to do a study to have one site for the entire area. That is fine, but that could be two or three years from now.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And there are no private entrepreneurs around there who are interested?

Mr. Martel: The city of Sudbury does not want to allow them to dump their garbage into the city because, as you know, they are having a real problem with burning. And they cannot afford to bring in the fill, and there is not that much fill available.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Who cannot afford to bring in the fill?

Mr. Martel: The city of Sudbury. They have to bring their fill a long way.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I will have to look into that and we will go on to another one.

Mr. Martel: I will have to get a reply to that because something has to be done. It has reached the critical stage.

I want to go on with industrial waste. I might suggest, Mr. Chairman, has anyone ever considered utilizing old mine shafts and abandoned drifts in the Sudbury area as places for disposing of this garbage? They have to backfill in all of those.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think old mine sites and old quarries are all being looked into as possible disposal sites. They are not all acceptable, depending on the—

Mr. Martel: Drainage.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —drainage, depending on the base of the sites, the possibility of leakage, the proximity of your water tables and things like that. You heard the discussion this afternoon on old mine shafts in the Sarnia area. Well, this is the same thing that was developed there.

Mr. Martel: Pretty different type up there, Mr. Minister, it is solid rock we are talking about. The possibility of water or seepage is not nearly as great because there is no such thing as a water table around.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This study that you have mentioned, of course, will include old mine shafts.

Mr. Martel: I would like to go on then to two points—one I started to question the minister about the other night. I dug out the original correspondence with respect to what the minister stated to me. I am sure he recalls the point well; when we went up there we questioned them about their industrial waste and they denied it.

Mr. Minister, we gave you the pictures of it occurring, coloured pictures. We have the names of the people who actually were involved in cutting out the section of the tailings line. We know why they had to cut it, because they allowed their waste basins to get filled up.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are not willing to leave this until we get to the vote on OWRC?

Mr. Martel: I just do not know whether you want to consider this under waste management.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would rather consider it under OWRC, because I have the director of industrial waste here, and I could report here fully on it at that time.

Mr. Martel: All right, then I will leave the portion on the other industrial waste things with respect to the seven places which are still, despite your study, having waste effluent.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You might leave that information with Mr. Caplice as you go out.

Mr. Martel: You sent it to me. You were generous enough and sent me this just this year on February 17.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh did I? Is it my signature?

Mr. Martel: You must have approved it, it is over your signature. So we just have a difference of opinion. You say because the company is being very co-operative you would not move against it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I did not say that, not in so many words.

Mr. Martel: Oh yes, they are co-operating with you. Maybe I have your letter—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is because probably we sued them for \$20 million or something.

Mr. Martel: You have never sued them, that is the irritant.

Mr. Bullbrook: You should not make any facetious remarks about a \$20 million lawsuit.

Mr. Martel: The irritant, Mr. Minister—

Mr. Bullbrook: The Attorney General (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) did that and he is sorry he did.

Mr. Martel: I will leave that and come back to it all under OWRC, because this industrial waste is getting into the water courses

Mr. Chairman: Are you through? Mr. Newman.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Mr. Chairman, my question is on a matter that concerns me and many others around Metropolitan Toronto regarding the disposal of leaves. The one thing that does concern me—

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Chairman. I was next.

Mr. W. Newman: I am sorry, you must be ahead of me. You have been here longer than I have, go ahead.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Ontario South may as well state his question.

Mr. Deacon: I will leave now.

Mr. W. Newman: Mr. Chairman, one thing that has concerned me about this, all these leaves are supposed to be collected and disposed of in the proper method. What really bothers me is that I kind of like the smell of burning leaves—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: So do I.

Mr. W. Newman: —and in more rural parts or areas that are not crowded with a lot of houses, why can we not burn leaves? If we were using them for heating or cooking we can do it, it is quite legal, but otherwise we cannot burn leaves. Why can we not burn leaves? What harm do they do?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I agree with the hon. member that the smell is always sort of seasonal, on the threshold of winter. We have stopped it, of course, in urban centres. A lot of these restrictions had been imposed by the municipalities themselves, by way of bylaw.

There is a certain amount of particulate matter that goes into the atmosphere resulting from leaf burning. At first we only acted on complaint and the complaints got to be so frequent because the complainants knew that

the regulations were there, that we decided we had better do as much as possible in an across-the-board programme by way of advertising and, where possible, enforcing our regulations. We are not being that harsh, as far as I know, in the rural or very small communities where there is not that concentration of particulate matter.

I know that disposal by other methods is sometimes awkward for many people, particularly where there is no regular garbage pickup, or street cleaning. You have a situation in some municipalities where we have stopped burning and then, of course, the leaves were hauled to a dump and were burned at the dump, so really there was not that great an improvement.

We have had areas, as you know, where burning leaves have caused accidents on some of our roads and highways. And as the hon. member knows, leaf burning brings tears to your eyes.

Mr. W. Newman: The kind of tears I like.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 503 carried?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, who would be responsible for enforcing a law concerning the burning of leaves, now? I can recall in my own municipality that I had heard complaints and they called the police, and the police said, "Well, it is a provincial responsibility."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, no. In certainly most municipalities that I know of in this part of the country, it is basically a municipal responsibility.

Mr. B. Newman: Air pollution is provincial, it is not municipal.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, they have—the municipalities have passed bylaws prohibiting leaf burning. You see, they have ipso facto passed a law saying: "It is illegal to burn leaves." Now, if you burn leaves, you have a fire, and it pollutes. Under our regulations and legislation, then, action could be taken for causing pollution as an end result of leaf burning. But the Act itself at the municipal level can be considered a breach of a municipal bylaw.

Mr. W. Hodgson: It is not a regulation, though. Have you finished? I just wanted to say something on this.

Mr. B. Newman: On the same topic?

Mr. W. Hodgson: Yes, bylaws in municipalities, fire control bylaws. But they are disregarded now. If they want a fire permit, anybody out of my area has to phone down to pollution control.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. W. Hodgson: It is a hell of a way of doing business. I mean that local municipality could administer it far better, and know what they are doing, than phoning somebody down here in Toronto and having to make a long distance call to get back if they do not get the man they want—why, then they have to make two. It causes a lot of aggravation. I know that it worked very well at the municipal level, prior to this.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask on fly ash disposal. Back in my own area, as the minister is fully aware, there is a considerable amount of fly ash generated by the Clarke-Keith Generating Plant.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a municipal plant?

Mr. B. Newman: No, no, that is provincial—provincial Hydro—plus the fly ash generated in the other industries in the community. A contractor wanted to dump them in a low-lying ground that was eventually going to be transformed into park use. It was stopped because the parks commissioner maintained that fly ash will sterilize the ground. Is that so, Mr. Minister, and if it is so, how is fly ash disposed of?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, as far as the hon. member's riding is concerned, apparently at that location of a particular dumping spot for fly ash it was found that there was some sort of rare grass, that resulted from the Ice Age, or something, and because this might sterilize this grass, a group at the university objected. I am not sure, but I think the city of Windsor at first approved, and then they revoked that approval.

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: So that because of the approval of the city engineer and the good mayor down there we have abandoned that site and a new one is being developed.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, is it the responsibility of the municipality, then, to develop a site for fly ash disposal?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: It is their responsibility. That is all right then.

Mr. Burr: They are going to put it in Sandwich West.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you not happy about that?

Mr. Burr: Well, since they are both in my riding—

Mr. Chairman: Vote 503 carried?

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): No, no.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gaunt.

Mr. Gaunt: I was wanting to make some comments and get some information with respect to the committee on packaging.

Now, I understand that they have meetings periodically, I am not sure how often. I know that they have been dealing with certain matters having to do with the raising of the deposit on returnable bottles, and the studying of new methods of packaging of one type or another. I think the idea was to recommend to the minister what in their opinion should be done in this field.

First of all, may I ask, Mr. Chairman, how many meetings have they held?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Nine meetings.

Mr. Gaunt: Nine meetings. Is the minister in any way in a position to give some of the committee's recommendations? Or to give in any way a report of what the committee has done up until now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, I was just handed that report this week. I was handed a very rough draft copy of the report. It is now being printed so that it will be available for everybody. I would think that I would probably consider tabling that in the House. It is to be released at a meeting of this litter council, next week. Next week, at which time I hope to meet with the council and discuss its recommendations. Eventually we will have to act on them one way or another.

Mr. Gaunt: The idea is that as far as you are concerned, you are prepared to act on most of the reports?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, I would not like to say that, really, until I have—because of my estimates and everything, I have not had a chance to really look into this report—it is a fairly lengthy report—and to discuss the recommendations. As the hon. member can appreciate, this was a type of committee that was made up of consumer organizations, of

Pollution Probe, anti-pollution organizations, representatives of the industry and government, so there certainly was not a unanimous decision or unanimous opinion on any of the recommendations that I know of, except possibly that there is a problem. Therefore, I would like to discuss it with the council and as a result of that and discussions with people in my department, we would then take some action.

Mr. Gaunt: I think, Mr. Chairman, it was fairly predictable that they would not agree on anything, to use your phrase, because all segments of the industry were represented as well as Pollution Probe. I mean, I think it was pretty well a foregone conclusion that with the composition of that sort of committee you just could not get agreement.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the body of that report will be very valuable. The discussions and the reasoning and, of course, the statistics that it contained.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, I just want to say this, that as far as I am concerned, I hope that the minister does not take the fact that there is no unanimous agreement on any one issue as an excuse to not move in this problem because I think it is a very important problem, the whole litter question. Not only returnable bottles, which certainly are a problem, but the whole litter question.

I just want to say, Mr. Chairman, that I know the minister is interested in this and I hope that he will move by way of legislation in this area.

As far as I am concerned, I think there are two points that seem to me to be very apparent. The one is the fact that we should have a higher deposit on returnable bottles. I think that is very apparent and can be backed up by statistics. I know that Pepsi- and Coca-Cola say there is no point in raising the deposit because it just will not work. The only reason they say that is that it is not their idea, and they are the leaders in the industry and they do not want to have any ideas accepted that do not come from them. It is just as simple as that.

As far as I am concerned I think you could go to Wishing Well in London for your evidence. They raised their deposit on their own and they were getting roughly four trips prior to this and now they are getting 17 to 18. If they can do that then I suggest to you that it can work. Now maybe when you put it across the board you will not be getting an average of 17 to 18 trips. All I am saying

is that you will get a lot more than four or five, and I really think you will. So I think that is one area that should be certainly dealt with.

The other area that I mentioned to the minister, Mr. Chairman, is the matter of design. It seems to me that in pop bottles just like beer—with the exception of Heidelberg, of course—we should have a uniform design.

In the beer industry we have something in the neighbourhood of a 97 per cent return and they have the type of bottle that facilitates easy return, easy handling. I throw that out to the minister and I ask him to consider it. Every company wants to have something unique about its product but I think it can be done on the label without designing the bottle in dozens of different ways. If you had a uniform bottle any distinction that is made to separate one product from another can be made by way of alterations to the label design. It seems to me that those are two areas particularly where we can move.

Now the matter of cans is another problem again. I think the returnable bottle was introduced back in 1962 and it gained real prominence around 1967. It has been promoted very widely and gained a great deal of public acceptance since that time, but part of the reason for its introduction was the cans. I mean, if you banned non-returnables they would just simply switch to using more cans and that really would not solve our problem.

I think maybe there has to be a deposit there, too. I do not know. As far as I am concerned I think so, but maybe the minister has some other ideas on that. I do not know. In any case, I think when we look at it, we realize that eight to 10 per cent of the garbage collected is made up of glass of one type or another—not necessarily non-returnable bottles, but glass of all types—and the residue, the portion that is left after incineration, accounts for 30 to 40 per cent. It really is a problem in this waste management area, plus the fact it costs The Department of Highways roughly \$1 million to pick up these silly bottles. I think we really have to move in this area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There are lots of returnables in that \$1 million though, are there not?

Mr. Gaunt: Yes, there certainly are returnables. I think that the preponderance of them is non-returnable, though. There are certainly returnables in them. There has got

to be, because if a company is only getting three or four or five trips out of a returnable bottle obviously they are going somewhere. They are going on to the landscape so, sure, you are right—there is quite a number of returnables in that count. There is no doubt about it.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): A lot of that count, too, is made up of the very expensive business of picking up the broken ones which are non-returnables.

Mr. Gaunt: This is true.

Mr. Young: That is a very expensive proposition.

Mr. Gaunt: That is all I have to say.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deacon, I think we bypassed you earlier.

Mr. Deacon: I wanted to ask the minister, Mr. Chairman, why he thinks there has been so much resistance to industrial waste disposal sites and to landfill sites; what is his thinking on this matter? I am one who encouraged the municipality to fight the landfill projects and I would like to know why he feels that the municipalities should just go ahead and allow these things to proceed.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You just answered your question. You asked me why there is so much resistance and then you say you encouraged the municipality to resist.

Mr. Deacon: Yes, I know, but I want to know why you think they should allow them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What is the matter with them? What do we do with the waste that is generated?

Mr. Deacon: Why do you think people are objecting to this? This is what I am trying to get at. This is the job that I think you should be dealing with.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Too many politicians stirring them up.

Mr. Deacon: You are saying, then, Mr. Minister, they should accept these sites where the waste could contaminate in the future, because you are not standing behind it yourself?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How do you know they can contaminate?

Mr. Deacon: Why will the minister not himself move in and say we are going to operate a site here for the disposal of wastes, be they industrial wastes or other wastes, and we are accepting thereby the responsibility. What you are encouraging municipalities to do is to accept the responsibilities because you are afraid to take it on yourself.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What is the matter with the municipality having the job of looking after the disposal of waste within the municipality?

Mr. Deacon: Because the municipalities in these cases are accepting waste from outside the municipalities and this is what the fight is about. The fight of Vaughan township against Metro was about the disposal of waste from outside that municipality.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean the waste would be different if it was generated within the municipality?

Mr. Deacon: They are saying they will try to cope with the problem generated within their boundaries and the industrial waste is in the same position. What the minister has been doing and what his colleagues have been doing in the cabinet is encouraging these wars between municipalities by not accepting the responsibility themselves.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right. Where would you suggest we place the sites?

Mr. Deacon: I suggest that if you know, and you are so satisfied that the procedures that you are now saying are all right and that you are approving, are indeed all right, then you operate those sites yourself. The municipalities cannot fight you. You have got all power. They are beholden to you—but accept the responsibility instead of shoving it on to them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In other words, you are saying because this site would be operated by the province, the municipalities and the people within those municipalities would completely change their opinion about the site?

Mr. Deacon: They may not change their opinion but then you are taking the responsibility on behalf of the people of the province.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What about your party's stand on local autonomy?

Mr. Deacon: It is not a matter of local autonomy in this case. It is a matter of the

ecology of the province and you are assuming the responsibility properly.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you want us to impose certain sanitary landfill sites on the municipalities—

Mr. Deacon: I do not—

Hon. Mr. Kerr:—regardless of where that waste comes from?

Mr. Deacon: I do not. You are not imposing it on the municipality. You are taking the responsibility for providing satisfactory disposal. Then, if it is not satisfactory, you are doing it for the people of the province and the people of the province have got to accept any resulting problems.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This whole hypothesis is ridiculous. At the present time, as the member knows, we are regulating and supervising sanitary landfill sites, garbage dumps and incinerators. Now what is the difference if a municipality owns a site and operates a site with this power we have, as opposed to us going in ourselves and operating the site? What is the difference?

Mr. Deacon: You are a lawyer, I am not, but I say there is a lot of difference between your having approved a site and there being a mistake; then there is the dispute as to whether the problem arose as a result of poor operation or because it was basically a poor thing to begin with—the whole concept.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are in there right from the beginning.

Mr. Deacon: You have no pressure on you at all once this municipality—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are in there right from the beginning. The site is not operated until we approve it, so what is the difference? You will probably end up hiring local people to run it anyway, so what is the difference?

Mr. Deacon: Take the Stouffville site for the disposal of liquid waste which you opened up again after it was closed down initially at our representation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. It should not have been closed down in the first place.

Mr. Deacon: And should the local farmers in that area, plus the town of Stouffville, plus the people downstream on the Holland River all find oily wastes coming through in their wells, who do you blame? The site operator.

Who can they look to for compensation or for correcting or putting them back in operation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The province.

Mr. Deacon: Can they, right now, clearly?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. If we approved a site and that happened, they could look to the province.

Mr. Deacon: And in the case of Kleinburg, the same way?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Certainly. If we approve a site and it turns out that the approval should not have been given in the first place, we would be as responsible as the municipality.

Mr. Deacon: So you are taking the burden from the municipality and you are taking absolute responsibility for the operation of that site—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are taking that to be the burden, yes.

Mr. Deacon: You in turn try to collect for somebody who has mismanaged the operation, I suppose, but as far as the ultimate—those who are damaged can look to the province for full compensation and damages and—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not want to oversimplify this.

Mr. Deacon: It needs to be simplified.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not want to attempt to give a dissertation on the law. All I am saying is that if we go into a municipality and we give what is called a certificate of approval to a sanitary landfill site, then there is responsibility on us as to the safeness of that site.

The operation of the site, the proper operation and management of that site, is still the responsibility of the municipality, where it should remain.

Mr. Deacon: In other words, you are leaving it where the person who suffers damages has still got to try to prove as to whether the basic concept was incorrect or whether the operation was wrong. You are giving him a problem of sorting out the damages.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. All that the person who is affected by that site would probably have to do, if in some way he suffers damages, would be just to prove that he has

suffered damages and they were related to the operation of that site.

Mr. Deacon: That is right, but he suffers damages—take for example Stouffville; they do suffer damages. Their wells become, for example, in such a condition that they cannot use them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you saying that is a fact or—

Mr. Deacon: No, I am saying if this happens.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, right.

Mr. Deacon: If this were to happen—we have not had this come to light yet, but if it does come to light—can the farmers or can the town then look to the province and say, "Our wells have been destroyed by this site which you have approved."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are using a bad example, because if my memory serves me correctly I do not think our responsibility came into effect until September of last year and this site was cleared about one year ago.

Mr. Deacon: When did you come in? In 1970?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Our responsibility under The Waste Management Act was—

Mr. Deacon: Legally, you may have ducked your responsibility because it did not come in before that—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Believe me, there was no intent to do so.

Mr. Deacon: But before that time you still gave approval to the sites and encouraged the carrying on of this site without accepting the responsibility then. Now you are saying that you do not have the responsibility.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, we were asked by the municipality, as far as Stouffville was concerned, to give an opinion. We carried out certain tests there and we gave that opinion, I believe, at a public meeting. But at that time we had no jurisdiction to close that site or to decide whether or not it would remain open.

Mr. Deacon: But now you have that responsibility.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Deacon: Now, I would clearly like to know if you have responsibility, for example, in the Kleinburg site. If that is operated and water comes from the aquifers affected by that site, and the people find that they no longer have potable drinking water—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I can save the hon. member a lot of time by saying that if they sue, they should join The Department of Energy and Resources Management or whatever its name may be and the municipality. Those would be the defendants in the event that, in the future, they could relate contamination from the operation of that site to an individual's water or some damage that he may suffer.

Mr. Deacon: The point is that I want to be sure the individual does not lose out in collecting damages because of the province having been able to shuck off the responsibility to a municipality which in turn cannot pay or cannot correct it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am not agreeing with your hypothesis, that we are shucking off any responsibility. As we do with a lot of things in this province, as far as municipal responsibility vis-à-vis provincial responsibility, we say the operation of sanitary landfill sites is better done at the local level, certainly at this point anyway.

If a municipality cannot operate a garbage dump or a sanitary landfill site, they should not be municipal government's responsibility, in my mind. So, as of now, the prime responsibility for the proper operation within our legislation's regulations rests with the municipality. As long as they abide by these regulations and there is no breach of these regulations; then if there is still damage, it is quite possible that the province would be responsible as a result of that damage.

Mr. Deacon: I would accept it if there is clearly a means of stopping pollution moving from one municipality to another in the aquifers; where it is clearly the garbage that is causing the problem where a—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You know the problem up there is a matter of aesthetics. You do not like the idea of a dump in Kleinburg. You think it is beautiful country—and it is beautiful countryside—you just do not like the idea of a sanitary landfill site, and this concern about water tables and the environment is secondary right now.

Mr. Deacon: I disagree completely with the minister's view on that. I have been in

many meetings—and, I think, more than he has in regard to this matter—and I am completely convinced their major concern is more than aesthetics. The number one concern is the future pollution of the aquifers through that area and of the river and of the mess that will be made and the way the whole thing is operated.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Would you suggest that maybe an incinerator would be better up there?

Mr. Deacon: I will go into that later on. The major point I want to get to here, though, is that you have the power over municipalities who are producing the garbage. You have the resources to develop better ways of handling these wastes.

People are objecting to this whole procedure because of the unpleasant byproducts. The province has the major resources to correct that situation and make it such that they would not object to it. I will go into that later on. Meantime, I want to find out from you some of the costs in connection with handling of garbage.

I want to point out today that we discussed briefly the other day the matter of collection of garbage and ways of discouraging over-abundant use of it. Mr. Spademan brought down some samples of literature and advertising that he used in the Markham area to try to get control of the production of garbage, and I am sure he will be glad to give it out to anybody who is interested.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Deacon: That is to do with waste disposal that we are talking about.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Only the committee members can speak on these items.

Mr. Deacon: Okay. The next is: With the disposal of garbage, the landfill sites were quite fine initially. I gather that was because each municipality around Toronto had ample landfill sites. But they gradually got filled up and they were done in a way that caused rodents and smell and they took on a very bad complexion. The explosions in Etobicoke's park and near their park from generation of gases are one of those things.

Do you feel the new methods of operation of these landfill sites that are now being carried out by Metro are going to eliminate the need for piping the landfill sites to reduce the gas? Are they going to eliminate the problems that have arisen from the dumping

of raw garbage and the use of fill in layers to handle it? What sort of tonnage cost is involved in that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Heaman, would you like to answer that question? The hon. member was discussing the relation of the possibility of gas developing from the operation of sanitary landfill sites. Is that a problem and if it is, how do we usually handle it? Do we pipe the gas?

Mr. Deacon: And what is the cost of handling it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The cost, I suppose, would have to be approximate, but do you have any idea if this is being done at some sanitary sites and roughly what it costs?

Mr. J. D. Heaman (Waste Management Branch): Mr. Chairman, the problem of gas generation from landfills has usually reached critical proportions in old operations, largely where building has encroached either onto or adjacent to the site. It is possible to utilize engineering procedures to minimize those, and with the knowledge that has been gained at the present time and with the authority in the Act to control the use of old landfill sites for a period of 25 years, this will enable adequate measures to be insisted upon by the department to correct situations such as the hon. member has indicated.

Mr. Deacon: Well, do I not understand, in connection with the Etobicoke situation, that some of those consulted in the matter stated the gas would be coming out of there for 100 years?

Mr. Heaman: That is probably excessive, Mr. Chairman, but the generation of gas is a result of moisture and temperatures and make-up of the refuse.

Mr. Deacon: What is the cost of operating a landfill site so that would not occur? There is a new type of operation where you put in layers of fill which remove that danger. What is the cost of operating that new way of using the soil in between?

Mr. Heaman: Mr. Chairman, in a landfill site that is properly established and operated, we do not consider that there is any significant hazard as a result of methane gas generation. It merely percolates up into the air and dissipates. The utilization of sanitary landfill practices will not inhibit the generation of this gas.

It is really a desirable end-result because it indicates the decomposition of the organic matter which then becomes a stabilized humus. Scientific experiments have indicated that under ideal conditions, there is probably stabilization of organic refuse in about four years. We have seen sites opened up in the Kitchener area, for example, after 10 years where there has been no evidence of further generation of methane gas at that time, so that the period over which it is generated can fluctuate widely.

Mr. Deacon: Does that depend on the way the site is operated? I asked earlier what the cost would be to operate a site that would—for example, in the Kitchener site, what would be necessary? A lot of extra fill being used in between the layers of garbage?

Mr. Heaman: Yes, that would be reasonable.

Mr. Deacon: What would be your cost—what is Metro's cost of doing that at a landfill site, which I understand they are doing now?

Mr. Heaman: Until recently, Metro have estimated their cost for operation of their sanitary landfill—which represented the highest practice of that order and this includes all of their engineering design preventive measures and the cost of the land amortized, if I recollect correctly, over a period of 20 years—at \$2.35 per capita per year. I believe they have increased that—

Mr. Deacon: Per capita?

Mr. Heaman: Per ton. Excuse me. They have recently increased that estimate to—I believe it is in the area of \$2.60 for current estimating purposes.

Mr. Deacon: I understand that there is a supermarket in the Toronto area that is on a site which has been established for over 20 years. With some work that was going on within a few hundred feet of that area for piping the floor temperatures underneath that supermarket have risen to 120 degrees. Are you knowledgeable of that particular situation?

Mr. Heaman: Yes, we have had some involvement in that, Mr. Chairman. This apparently was a site which has been quiescent for a number of years and as a result of engineering activities on the part of the metropolitan municipality—I believe in

connection with the Spadina Expressway—tunnels were opened into that which caused it to be excessively aerated. As a result, this organic material which had been lying quiescent became extremely active and I suppose, as long as it is aerated, will now rapidly stabilize with generation of gas.

Mr. Gaunt: I knew we should not have built that—

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): They will find a green slimy monster one of these days.

Mr. Deacon: What would be the reason for that? That site was operated in very recent times. Would the lack of stabilization be the fact that they did not use modern methods? You talk about four years to stabilize and here is 20 years and it has not. They open it up and it suddenly starts to boom. And maybe there will be a boom one of these days.

Mr. Heaman: The background of that operation, Mr. Chairman, is not fully known but we rather suspect that it was a dry site, one that was very well drained. As a result the optimum rate of stabilization did not occur.

Mr. Deacon: This whole matter of stabilization depends on moisture and a lot of other things? Does the department look into this matter of moisture in the operation of these landfill sites?

Mr. Heaman: Yes, there is work to that effect.

Mr. Deacon: Do you have standards that are to be maintained in order to try to ensure that stabilization of the site will take place in a reasonable time?

Mr. Heaman: No, we cannot expect to adjust the natural conditions in a landfill site to the degree in which the optimum rate of stabilization can occur. All that can be done is to operate it in such a manner that undesirable side effects are minimized and then superimpose this long-term requirement of supervision associated with additional uses of the property.

Mr. Deacon: In other words, we really are still very much in a guessing game as to the way that these are being operated. We do not know whether stabilization will occur within four years or 40 years because of variations in moisture content. We are not aware of it in the way that this department

is supervising the situation, and I suppose there is no way of the department really supervising it.

Mr. Heaman: That, Mr. Chairman, is a reasonable assessment.

Mr. Deacon: What are the differences, using landfill sites, between garbage that is pulverized compared to garbage that is not pulverized?

Mr. Heaman: The pulverizing operation puts it in a much more uniform condition, in that it breaks down large particles and makes it a much more uniform mass. At the same time it aerates it to a considerable degree and, as a result, it is less offensive to handle and is in a situation more conducive to stabilization. It is the same idea if you attempt to dissolve a chunk of salt. It will take some time to dissolve but if it is powdered finely you can get a much quicker solution.

Mr. Deacon: Would pulverization eliminate my colleague from Welland South's problem about needles, for example? Those needles, would they be disposed of in pulverization? Is that fine enough to do it? Would it eliminate the problem of rodents?

Mr. Heaman: Mr. Chairman, that would help, but we believe that waste of that description, which can be properly classed as hazardous, probably should be handled under special provisions at the source before it is disposed of.

Mr. Deacon: With pulverization is it not quite easy to eliminate the metals by magnets once the material is pulverized?

Mr. Heaman: Only, Mr. Chairman, if it is a case of magnetic metal, iron and steel. I suspect that the metal in hypodermic syringes is probably stainless and is non-magnetic but by the time it got through a pulverizer it should be formless and would not be very attractive to youngsters to want to use.

An hon. member: I hope so.

Mr. Deacon: But does pulverization eliminate the problem of rodents?

Mr. Heaman: According to the investigations we have made of a large practical evaluation of this system at Madison, Wisconsin, it is rendered unattractive to rodents and also to birds and also will not propagate fly generations.

Mr. Deacon: And does it reduce the volume of the garbage?

Mr. Heaman: Generally speaking, probably yes. But on the other hand you could appreciate that that is a factor dependent on the initial apparent density.

Mr. Deacon: On the average what would be the reduction of the volume of domestic garbage to pulverization?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean the space used up?

Mr. Deacon: Space, yes—the volume of the garbage. After all, one of the major problems in garbage is to get it in as small a space as possible.

Mr. Heaman: Well, again, Mr. Chairman, it is hard to generalize there. Say your refuse contains a lot of tin cans and you pulverize that. It will obviously reduce the volume of space, but if, on the other hand, it is against bulky material, it could end up—

Mr. Deacon: Have we no experience in this, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Heaman could tell us about? Is pulverization not done anywhere?

Can we get records to find out about this—the volume it would reduce? We know it eliminates rodents. We know it reduces the objectionable smell. What about the volume? Surely there is something that can tell us about that?

Mr. Heaman: Well, based on a limited amount of experience, Mr. Chairman; as yet this system has not been widely used. We do believe that with possible reduction in requirements of covering soil, plus reductions in voids, that it may extend a landfill site possibly 50 per cent.

Mr. Deacon: I understand the figure should be 100 per cent, but I do not have available the statistics sent to me from some of the cities; I am trying to get those. I thought surely the department would have this sort of information available to it.

The second thing is what are the economics?

Do you want to go into this later, Mr. Chairman? Is the bell ringing?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How much longer do you want?

Mr. Deacon: I have a bit more.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How much longer? Because the bells are going to ring another 10 minutes I would think.

Mr. Deacon: The bell is still going. I can certainly carry on here.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, go ahead.

Mr. Deacon: I would appreciate knowing the figures that the department has available as to the cost of, say, putting in a pulverizer. What is the capital cost per ton of daily capacity, for example? Have you got any estimates of that?

Mr. Heaman: The city of St. Catharines has installed a unit of this type, Mr. Chairman, and while I do not have the exact figures in front of me, I believe the cost of the grinding unit itself was about \$60,000, plus the physical plant to go with it. The building of course is—

Mr. Deacon: The building is an essential part.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand, Mr. Chairman, that land filled with grinding is about twice the cost of just landfill disposal. Landfill disposal is about \$2 average cost per person per year, where landfill with grinding is \$4 to \$5.

Mr. Deacon: I just want to check your figures. The figures I have are that landfill with pulverization will add about \$2 per ton to the cost of operation but it will also double the life of your landfill site.

It will eliminate the rodents. It will also eliminate the problem—if pulverization is carried out at transfer stations—it will eliminate the problem of paper and garbage being dropped off the trucks as they head for these landfill sites. It will eliminate the need for cover being put on it. Actually if you finely grind or pulverize the top layer, you have a topsoil almost that can be used for sowing grass. We have the elimination of gas. We have the elimination of the problem of the Welland South needles. All these points are covered by pulverization.

Surely this then makes the landfill site something that the public would not dread. I suggest that this is something the minister should move towards, because he is going to have trouble everywhere he goes in opening up landfill sites unless he can show the public that the product going in is not going to be a nuisance product.

I suggest to the minister that if pulverized garbage is going in the people of Kleinburg

would not object to it, because they could then see the product being used to enhance their community. But all they can picture right now is what goes on whenever these garbage trucks drive along the road—the litter going on behind them.

They can visualize the rodents and the smell that result in so many cases where the dumps are badly operated. They also know that the soil cover for the site in Kleinburg is going to be supplied by overburden, which will open up another gravel pit nearby.

All these things are what incense them so greatly, and I suggest to the minister that he would have far fewer problems, and so would the municipalities, in dealing with the disposal of waste if the minister would see that the products disposed were in such a condition that people did not have to worry about the dump sites, and this includes industrial waste as well.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the site in St. Catharines, where there was a great deal of public opposition—you know, parades with placards and the whole bit—is now a very acceptable sanitary landfill site. I believe we insisted on grinding down there.

There is no reason, depending on the location of these sites, why we cannot insist on the same thing. We can lay down certain requirements for a sanitary landfill site, depending on its location and, of course, depending on the willingness of the local people to pay so much for the disposal of garbage, which is an item of some importance in these municipalities.

We are having a great deal of trouble now in just requiring upgrading of dumps and sanitary landfill sites because we are getting local objections as to the cost.

Mr. Deacon: One of the major costs in a landfill operation around Metro today is transportation. If you reduce the volume of the product being transported it is certainly going to have a major effect on your transportation which, I understand, is bringing the landfill cost for the Metro area in the order of \$5 to \$6. Up in the Maple—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But you cannot get by the fact that the average cost per person per year of landfill with grinding is over twice as much as ordinary landfill disposal.

Mr. Deacon: I think it is very important, Mr. Minister, that you look at the total cost of disposal of garbage, not just the operation

of the end-site. The total cost includes transportation and—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean there will be fewer pickups in an area?

Mr. Deacon: If you have transfer stations and pulverizers located at the transfer station point.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What will they cost?

Mr. Deacon: The pulverizer is about \$60,000.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And the cost of operating those?

Mr. Deacon: The operating—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What I am getting at is that nothing is cheaper.

Mr. Deacon: No, it may not be cheaper but there is a cost going into things right now; that is, the cost of delays through these fights which the citizens are, to my mind, quite understandably putting up to objectionable operations in their neighbourhoods.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, if those same people who are objecting will accept the recommendations we make as to the type of sanitary landfill site, regardless of cost, we will insist on a certain type of site with all these various modern methods.

Mr. Deacon: I am saying that I think it is only proper, particularly now as garbage is being hauled outside of Metro to the surrounding countryside, that those areas that are now going to be asked to accept the garbage at least have a product delivered to them that is not an objectionable product. This will give them a lot more comfort as to what the alternate problems will be. I suggest that the volume of the sites will be reduced. There is an economic factor but I think it is necessary for the minister to impose such conditions on the disposal of garbage so that we can reduce the great concern and the opposition it will have in the future.

I want to go into the question of incineration—

Mr. Young: I just want to clear up one point here. The statement was made that you would not need the earth layers between; I would think that you would.

Mr. Deacon: No, you would not.

Mr. Young: Would not need them at all? It is absorbent?

Mr. J. C. Thatcher (Deputy Minister): I would like to clarify that. I would just comment on a couple of those points that you just made, if I may.

You will still need some cover. The amount of cover can be reduced, though, because the ground material is somewhat better in texture; the grinding will not reduce the possibility of gas. The formation of methanes from the garbage will be exactly the same whether it is ground or it is not ground.

Mr. Deacon: But it will also make it very much more diffused and there is not going to be nearly the danger of pockets of gas. Is that not correct?

Mr. Thatcher: If you compare the ground material with a well-compacted landfill, there is no difference. If you are comparing either the ground material and a well-compacted

dump with a loosely filled, old-fashioned dump, yes. But I do not think we are allowing any of these old-fashioned, loosely filled dumps in any event.

This also introduces the matter of the capacity. When you mentioned that the ground material should double the capacity of the dump, I think this must be in relation to an uncompacted dump. In the case of a compacted dump and a ground material dump, the quantities should be approximately the same. The volumes required to take the material should be approximately the same.

Mr. Deacon: Well, perhaps the—

Mr. Chairman: In view of the hour, I believe we will adjourn and return at 8 o'clock.

It being 5.54 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Thursday, May 6, 1971

Waste management S-97

Motion to adjourn, Mr. Chairman, agreed to S-126



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, May 6, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1971

The committee resumed at 8.05, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

(continued)

On vote 503.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deacon.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Finishing up on this pulverization item, I was mentioning how I thought the province should consider eliminating the disagreeable aspects of garbage disposal, such as my colleague from Welland South (Mr. Reuter) mentioned—the needles the children get hold of, the smell of garbage, the rodents, and the trash that falls off. If we did require that any garbage that went to landfill sites had to go through pulverizers first it would certainly make it much more acceptable in every way.

The next thing I wanted to ask the minister is to explain in some detail why it is in his department's view, that the Kleinburg site is not going to endanger, or cause a threat to, the aquifers because of the way it is being operated. Is the seepage going to be collected in some way to prevent contamination of the aquifers? Can there be some explanation of that?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Can I have that question again? I am sorry.

Mr. Deacon: I understand that the Kleinburg garbage disposal site will have some method of preventing the moisture in the garbage from seeping down and getting into the aquifers. That there is a way of sealing off the seepage and collecting it and then having it treated so that it will not contaminate, is that correct? This is the way it was explained to the meetings that we attended. They did not tell us how it was going to be done, but I wanted to—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Usually, you pick a site that has a clay layer and it is more or less impervious to this type of leakage that you are talking about.

Mr. Deacon: Impervious? What is going to happen to the seepage? The ground is draining; you are assuming it is draining into the river; you cannot say the ground is impervious there. The water is going to get away from there in the site and having gone through the garbage, it is going to have a lot of undesirable elements in the water.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am told that if the garbage is compacted in an impervious layer it will not run water through it.

Mr. Deacon: I thought what I explained at the beginning of this was the fact that—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But the basic idea is that you pick a site where you do not have this type of leakage.

Mr. Deacon: But I understand, Mr. Chairman—earlier on we talked about the fact that if a site was filled with dry garbage it would not generate at all; it would just stay inactive. We have the condition where that supermarket near the Spadina Expressway has 120 degree temperature and is alarmed about its situation because the site is now generating.

Mr. Heaman explained carefully that if there were moisture—if it had not been dry garbage—the moisture would have caused the garbage to activate so that it would become stable after three or four years. Now you are telling me that there is not going to be any moisture in this. I think we are a little mixed up, are we not? Can we have somebody who knows about this explain the situation to us?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If the solid waste is put into this particular site dry and is properly covered, and the ground is proper from our point of view, as I say, there is this impervious layer—

Mr. Deacon: Where is this impervious layer?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why do you say there is going to be moisture? Why do you say there is going to be water?

Mr. Deacon: How are you going to stop water from snow, from rain, from everything

else, getting down into the garbage; seeping down through the ground? I do not know any garbage that does not seep.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because it is compacted to seal with earth on top.

Mr. Deacon: What type of earth is going to seal it so that it would not get down in there?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would assume that there is a sufficient layer of earth put on top of the garbage that is compacted.

Mr. Deacon: And where does the water flow? You are talking about earth. My experience has been that when you have earth, water does seep through it unless you have a very tight clay seal on the top of it. It has to be very carefully done to stop the water from getting through. I just cannot understand you claiming that water will not go down to the top surface of that garbage.

Could we have somebody come in? Yes, please.

Mr. J. D. Heaman (Waste Management Branch): Mr. Chairman, a great deal of the moisture is dissipated into the atmosphere as a result of what is described as evapotranspiration, whereby it is conducted through the vegetation. That is the source of the greatest dissipation of moisture.

Mr. Deacon: Well that is the normal situation with most fields or anything like that. A lot of moisture goes that way. But there is still water that gets down through the ground into the aquifers under normal conditions. How do you prevent this here?

Are you planning on having a seal at the base or on the surface or some polyethylene across the top of the whole thing, or what are you planning on doing to stop any seepage? Because if you have seepage you are going to have generation of the garbage which is what you told me at the beginning you found desirable. If you have seepage you are also going to have water collect at the bottom of that, which is likely to be a very undesirable element, with this type of water, getting into the aquifers.

Mr. J. C. Thatcher (Deputy Minister): Mr. Chairman, if I could try to help Mr. Deacon with this? If you can imagine a depression in the ground that has a sufficient depth of impermeable clay, you can add material on top of this and provided you compact it and put a layer of earth on the top—and it is usually clay earth—then the water will shed

from it just as surface water normally does, and the fact that you have compacted this means that you are going to get very little percolation of the water through the top layer, so you are shedding what is just basically surface water similar to the runoff that would occur from farmers' fields.

Now the minister mentioned a little earlier that—or Mr. Heaman did—that garbage that had been put in too dry stayed dry, and this really illustrates the point that if you have a sufficient cap over this material it does not gain a great deal of water from rainfall.

Mr. Deacon: But if something disturbs it then it does collect water and you have trouble.

Mr. Thatcher: Yes.

Mr. Deacon: Now what would you do in the case of something disturbing the surface of that, some shift in the earth or something that would happen, what would you do to correct the problem once moisture was found to get down into that pit?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What do you mean—something disturbing it? Such as what?

Mr. Deacon: Such as shifting ground that can occur, any disturbance in the earth's surface. In this case the site is in the Humber valley and there could be a flood that would cause a shifting of earth around there. I have known that to happen before. I am asking what you would do now if water had got down below that top surface and into the garbage and then started to seep, and your tests showed there was seepage? What do you do to correct the situation? Is there a system of collecting tiles at the bottom of the garbage that you can put in, some tile collection system so that you can put—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Sounds almost as bad as some farm runoff into the stream, does it not? Or salt from the roads or something like that?

Mr. Deacon: You would have a problem in that farm runoff, but you would have a much bigger concentration of it in this garbage pit.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh no, in a farm runoff you have miles and miles upstream of that.

Mr. Deacon: I am talking about the concentration of garbage in a small area. You would have a tremendous concentration of it there, because you would have put many hundreds of thousands of tons in there by the time you fill it up.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, this product that is packed in there, does it not oxidize?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Sure.

Mr. Deacon: It does not oxidize.

Mr. Allan: Well, it does oxidize.

Mr. Deacon: Not unless it is wet.

Mr. Allan: Did you ever see a pile of horse manure?

Mr. Deacon: I have seen quite a few piles and have shifted a few piles, but I also know that if you had been here earlier—

Mr. Allan: Did you ever see any that was wet at the bottom?

Mr. Deacon: If the hon. member had been here earlier, he would have heard Mr. Heaman talk about the problem where there is no moisture in the—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Deacon: Well, I would like to see the explanation of this. I would like to have the report on the Kleinburg dump. I would also particularly like to know why this same procedure would not work so that Metro could fill in the waterfront much faster by having a dike built of clean fill, as they proposed, by drying out the area in between the dike and the lake, draining it out and putting in an impervious layer and then putting garbage in there and then sealing it off with clay.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no comparison between Kleinburg and the lake.

Mr. Deacon: Why, what is the difference?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: One is a body of water and the other is not.

Mr. Deacon: One is a source of water for a few people and the other is a source of water for millions. Is that the difference?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, you are talking about a sanitary landfill site in a lake, in a body of water.

Mr. Deacon: No, it is not in the lake, it is sealed off by a dike. It is not in the lake.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There would be more chance, I would think, of a dike, depending on the size of that dike and the thickness, of breaking or breaching in some way to cause problems.

Mr. Deacon: Well, you are causing trouble with—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why would you want to clutter up the waterfront with a sanitary landfill site?

Mr. Deacon: Because they want to develop the waterfront and they will have an extensive fill operation in there. It would take them a lot longer without using the sanitary landfill. If you have such a method as you describe, that is not going to threaten Kleinburg because of the way it is constructed, the same principle surely can apply to the waterfront?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. It is completely different.

Mr. Deacon: You have not explained it. I would appreciate getting a complete report of that so it can be studied because I am confident that the same principles apply in both cases. Neither site is that safe, but there can be provision, perhaps, to make it safe.

When am I going to have a copy of those reports?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know if they exist yet.

Mr. Deacon: They do not? I understood that your waste management branch had made a report on both sites. One was about three years ago—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Did we have a report on the Kleinburg site? And the Toronto site as well?

Mr. Heaman: No, that was before—

Mr. Deacon: The Toronto site was done when the branch was under a different arrangement; it was not separated, by itself. I understood when I was on the metro planning committee that there was a report done as to why it would not work; what you are trying to do in Kleinburg would not work. I would be interested to see the two reports. When could I get them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will have to find out where the Toronto report is. I have no idea where it is now.

Mr. Deacon: When could I get a copy of the Kleinburg report?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Any time.

Mr. Deacon: Could I get it right after this then? Thank you.

Going on to the matter of incineration. The minister mentioned that all the incinerators in the Toronto area left a great deal to be desired in their efficiency and their operation; that they had many of the attributes that cause many people to object strongly to them being nearby. For example, the air pollution caused by even the best one, the Dufferin site, is quite unacceptable. On days of high humidity, the water-wash method of filtrating the air causes a serious fog hazard and it is most undesirable.

What are the plans? Has the minister given any thought to replacing them? Having all these replaced by the province with modern, up-to-date plants similar to the plants described in Frankfurt and the one in Hamilton?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, there is no plan to have them replaced by the province. As I mentioned before, the incinerators will remain under the control of the municipality; they will be built by local municipalities. I do not know if the member was here this afternoon when I was talking about this but the new incinerator that is being proposed for Etobicoke will be every bit as good as the one in Frankfurt. It will be the latest type of incinerator. I understand it is in the vicinity of a \$20 million facility.

Mr. Deacon: What capacity?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is 1,200 a day.

Mr. Deacon: That is working out to about \$16,000 or \$17,000 per ton capacity. What is the height of the stack?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It has not been designed yet, apparently. What we have is conceptual specifications for the plan.

Mr. Deacon: One of the comments the minister made was how beautiful the building would be. I suggest that the residents in that community probably do not give a darn about the appearance to nearly the same extent that they do about the efficiency of the plant and whether it will, in fact, operate so that there will not be pollution in the air and the surrounding territory as a result of its operation. Is the plant designed to utilize the steam output of that incinerator?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Deacon: For what purpose?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I say, there will be steam. There will be chain grate with con-

tinuous feed, with water-tube boilers to remove the heat. Now as to what they will do with the steam, there is no suggestion.

Mr. Deacon: Are they using pulverized garbage or just straght? Will there be a pulverization process?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do not know that either.

Mr. Deacon: In view of that, what makes you so sure it is the best, most modern design? Have your people studied the plan in detail?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have looked at other plants. Our people have looked at plants in Europe and from the conceptual specifications that we have of this plan, we are satisfied that it is to be the most modern type.

Mr. Deacon: How can you be satisfied when you do not know the height of the stack? You do not know whether it is using pulverized garbage? What do you know about it that gives you that basis for an opinion?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I say, we have these preliminary or conceptual specifications. Until, of course, we are satisfied with the final design, the final type of plant and just what the results will be as far as air pollution is concerned, for example, we will not approve it. We are satisfied that if they use the type of modern electrostatic precipitators they are talking about it will be at about 97 to 98 per cent efficiency.

Mr. Deacon: When you are talking about 97, 98 per cent efficiency what were you bringing particulate down to, relative to, say, the Dufferin incinerator?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, we will be—

Mr. Deacon: The European plants, most of them I saw, were around 0.16. What does this come to?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I know is it would be well within our standards.

Mr. Deacon: What are the standards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What are our standards for Metro Toronto?

Mr. W. B. Drowley (Air Management Branch): It is stated, Mr. Chairman, in terms of ground level concentration where there are 100 micrograms per cubic meter of air, which is quite stringent.

Mr. Deacon: Is that the same as 0.10, that they talk about? I know most of the studies I have read describe 0.16 as being the particulate content of, say, the Lausanne incinerator. I think the Frankfurt one gets down to 0.1.

Mr. Drowley: I have not done a direct correlation or a cross-check on it but I am sure it is in the same vicinity.

Mr. Deacon: As those?

Mr. Drowley: As those, yes. It is a visually clear stack.

Mr. Deacon: What is the humidity count? Is that a water-wash method?

Mr. Drowley: Completely dry.

Mr. Deacon: So what are your stack temperatures? You are working on condensers and steam condensers to—

Mr. Drowley: No, they are going to generate steam and take the heat out by generating steam.

Mr. Deacon: Fine. The reason I wanted to find out about that steam situation is that I understand the sale price of steam works out to—present rates vary between \$2 and in lower volumes it gets as high as \$3 a 1,000 Btu—I am not sure of the units they use in that—but there is a potential revenue from steam at current rates that would be in excess of the operating cost of the incinerator, including the amortization of the incinerator.

I understand that there is a potential revenue from steam available, from surplus steam, at these plants, that if it is sold at current rates, \$2 and \$3—I have not got the units here that I should have—per 1,000 pounds—I am not familiar with Btu, how they sell it—but if you use the surplus steam, I understand that there is a sufficient revenue at current rates for steam to actually pay the entire cost of operating the incinerator, including its amortization.

If that is the case this is a situation where the province could get into the business of incineration because the province does have—would have then—the reasons for building the plants and having them available not just to Metro but to municipalities outside Metro, which brought in pulverized garbage. I say pulverized garbage so it would be suitable for use in landfill sites or in incinerators. The province, if it took the lead in this, could then condemn these incinerators now oper-

ating in Metro and give Metro an alternative means of disposing of its garbage and charge it a very reasonable fee for disposing of the pulverized garbage.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: First of all, Mr. Chairman, you do not need to pulverize the garbage to get rid of it at this particular site, and why should the province get in? Why can Metro not sell the steam? They certainly would not generate enough to sell it outside of Metro.

We are still going to need at least two more like incinerators in Metro. Certainly they have sufficient factory plants and apartment blocks in this area to sell, if the price is competitive and if it can be used as fuel satisfactorily by industry, by commercial blocks. Why should the province? Why cannot Metro do the same thing?

Mr. Deacon: I will tell you why you should do it. The province should do it because Metro does not control Hydro. Hydro is the one that is now supplying steam in the Toronto area, has the franchise. The provinces were granted that and only the province—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Toronto Hydro, is it not?

Mr. Deacon: It may be Toronto Hydro, Toronto Hydro is not under the city of Toronto or under Metro. It is an autonomous body and the commissioners are appointed by the province and the minister does have responsibility—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Toronto Hydro? Toronto Hydro is not appointed by the province. They might have a representative on—

Mr. Deacon: Not appointed by the province? Toronto Hydro does not have elected representatives the way—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We may have one representative on the Toronto Hydro Commission, but it is not—

Mr. Deacon: Metro does not have jurisdiction over Toronto Hydro. Metro would like to be in a position to sell surplus steam to Hydro—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sure they would. If they have steam and it can be used by Hydro, they will be able to—

Mr. Deacon: Unfortunately, this has not been possible—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, they have not been generating enough steam, have they, for that?

Mr. Deacon: They could if they went into that type of—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are going to, that is right.

Mr. Deacon: The problem here is that the jurisdictions overlap. There is confusion here. There is lack of action and the minister is the one person in the position to get action and to take action and to move. If he wants to turn over the plants to the local municipalities on some basis afterwards, it would be fine, but the situation now is intolerable with continuation of the operation of poor incinerators or poor landfill sites. This minister is the person who could really get things moving instead of sitting there and studying—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will make sure that the sites, the incinerators, are proper and the sanitary landfill sites are proper and they meet our regulations, and that they are operated properly and everything is necessary to make sure that garbage is properly disposed of under the latest methods. But there is no reason for us to get into the business of operating those facilities.

Mr. Deacon: I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the minister has a responsibility for ensuring that these undesirable features of waste disposal, whether it be a domestic waste or industrial waste, are the responsibility of this minister. He tries bringing in laws which he hopes to enforce when the municipalities and the other agencies are having tremendous difficulties both financial and in every other way, legal ways, because of jurisdictional problems—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What jurisdictional problems?

Mr. Deacon: There is a jurisdictional problem, for example, between Metro's Commissioner Street plant and Ontario Hydro and the possible sale of steam there. There has been absolutely no way of getting any co-operation from Ontario Hydro in that situation.

Now I suggest, sir, that when you have problems of where plants will be sited, inside Metro's boundary or outside, it is something that should be done for the whole Toronto-centred region. To do this patchwork approach—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will certainly have a say in the location of any sites.

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Chairman, the minister is a great one for saying he will have a say. He is going to insist on this and insist on that, but he does not give the municipalities a means of doing it. He has the means. I suggested this—in fact I state it is more important for him to get in and do the job, if the others are not in a position to move so that we do not have continual procrastination. All we hear, year after year, is that we are going to have studies, or we are going to look into the matter. But we still have people upset and becoming increasingly upset about the lack of activity. And there are jurisdictions—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We get a lack of activity. It is fine if we do not have citizens groups unreasonably objecting to the plans of Metropolitan Toronto or any other municipality for the establishment of these things.

Mr. Deacon: I am stating that they have reasonable objections when there are not steps taken by this minister to eliminate the objectionable features of incinerators and of landfill sites. This minister has it in his power to straighten these things out and he is not doing it. He is just encouraging these battles by not taking action. This whole budget of \$250,000 for this waste management branch and the evident lack of expertise—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is \$260,000; do not try to get down any lower than we are—

Mr. Deacon: It is not much more than that. It is certainly the lack of action and expertise on the part of this branch and this minister, particularly as—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You just do not know what is going on, that is your problem. You have been travelling around Europe. You have not been spending enough time with the waste management branch; they would tell you all this—

Mr. Deacon: If I spent more time what?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: With the waste management branch. They will tell you exactly what is going on.

Mr. Deacon: Maybe they know what is going on, but the fact is people are not getting action—action is not being taken to correct the situation. Perhaps if the minister got into the situation, and knew a little more about it, it would help.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is a \$20 million incinerator that we are trying to get established in Etobicoke. If you will go out there and do a selling job for us, why, it will be built.

Mr. Deacon: If the minister will take steps to correct the incinerators we now have in this city which should be completely redone, maybe when citizens see an incinerator that does work they will be prepared to accept another one. But I can understand if they are used to what is going on at Commissioner Street, with the smog that spews out into the air, and what goes on up on Dufferin street—in our most modern plant—it is no wonder they object to them.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, last night the minister assured me that the incinerator authorities and Hydro would be discussing the possibility of this joint effort—waste disposal by incineration and the use of steam heat and electric power. Now, from the discussion that has gone on in the last half hour, I am still not convinced that this is being actively pressed. The member for York Centre expressed my ideas on this pretty well, I think, but I would like just to express it in my own words.

Ideally, if we recycled all our rubbish and our garbage, we would not need any landfills or incinerators. However, we have not reached that stage yet so if we must incinerate what cannot be recycled, in one way or another, then we must salvage what we can from the incineration by converting it into steam heat and electric power. I think the ideal place to begin is this Etobicoke incinerator before the plans are finalized. After last night I looked up some of the material that I had gathered. The National Civic Review of February, 1968, tells about some of these European incinerators that actually contribute electric power.

For example, in Rosenheim, Germany, a city of 32,000, the municipal incinerator is right in the middle of the city. It is described as being immaculate, dustless, noiseless, with the vapour scarcely visible. The incinerator takes 75 tons of household and commercial refuse and transforms it into usable steam heat and electric power. It takes the refuse not only from the whole city of Rosenheim but from 44 surrounding towns. The reason, of course, is that in that area they have simply run out of landfill areas so these 44 surrounding communities are de-

lighted to have a place to get rid of their refuse.

This incinerator generates 35 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually. It is nearly enough to supply the whole city of Rosenheim. In addition, it supplies enough steam heat through five miles of buried pipes to heat 90 stores, office buildings, factories, schools, banks and over 450 private dwellings as well.

The sales, Mr. Chairman, from the steam heat and electric power, plus the fee for collecting the garbage, cover the whole cost of the operation and give a small profit as well.

Essen, Germany, has one of the largest refuse burning incinerators in Europe and there the trash and the sewage from four cities is burned to make electric power for peak use. Similar plants are in Rotterdam and I think the one in Amsterdam is now completed.

Milan, Italy, is building a chain of incinerators to convert refuse into kilowatts to run its trams and to provide its street lighting. In Denmark, the city of Kolding, about 37,000 in population, has its household refuse being converted into commercial gas, which is piped into homes for domestic use. There, again, the plant is located in the centre of the town and gives off no fumes and no smoke.

Paris, France, started turning garbage into electricity over 50 years ago—I suppose that would be at the end of the First World War—and most of its refuse is disposed of in four big plants. The newest and largest one of these is adjacent to a residential area. They have been able to build it right beside some very fine residential sections of the city because it emits no dust and no visible smoke. Paris now sells enough power to service a city of 50,000 people. The sales in this instance cover one-third of the cost of the financing and the operations.

Mr. Chairman, if we must incinerate, we should not let the garbage go up in smoke. We should make maximum use of it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, we seem to be talking about two things here. First of all, we are concerned about getting rid of the garbage and, in this case, by way of incineration. As a part of this process, we are talking about the possibility of steam as fuel. It is my understanding that the particular proposals for the Etobicoke incinerator will, in fact, generate this steam.

As the hon. member probably knows, we have been talking about this Etobicoke incinerator for at least two years. We have been involved in trying to get a suitable site. They have been bickering at Metro council about where it should be. Every time a site is suggested, there are objections. Finally, they have settled on Etobicoke. Metro council has approved of this particular site. We have finally got some preliminary proposals and the conceptual specifications of the type of plant they intend to build.

Our information to date, and I want to make this clear, is that before sod is turned or a brick is laid, we have to know exactly what type of plant this is and have the whole story. We have not got that yet, but the municipality knows that, before it can start and get the building permit, our branches will have to approve of that. So we are satisfied from what we hear, particularly in relation to the cost and the evidence we have, that this will be the type of plant that will, because of the process, generate this steam, which will be available for use by other industries.

The hon. member is talking about using steam for generating electricity, I would assume, by one of the provincial or Hydro generating plants. I do not know if we have got that far yet. When the plant is built, I am sure that this is something that would be considered. I understand, from the latest information I have from Hydro, the plant that had been planned in Etobicoke would not generate sufficient steam to run that Lakeview plant, for example, that there would not be sufficient there.

I am sure that the Metro council, or the Metro works department, will, in fact, use the revenue from steam to offset the cost of operating this incinerator. We cannot say for sure if there would be sufficient to generate, to supply the quantity of fuel need, for example, of the Lakeview station. This is quite common, as the hon. member has indicated in Europe, because electricity costs for the most part are much higher in Europe than they are in this country. So a method of steam, of course, is a welcome method to offset some of the costs they have over there.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 503.

Mr. Burr: There are one or two small points. Last night's papers said that a scrap scavenger had been refused permission to salvage scrap from one of the dumps. I was just wondering whether the minister would

care to comment on this. It seems the man was doing us a favour by going and removing some of the scrap from the dump. What would be behind the policy of not allowing him to do this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Really, Mr. Chairman, I understand that this type of scavenging, or whatever you call it, is inconsistent with proper landfill. You cannot have people—

Mr. Burr: You mean it disturbs the compacting operation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Burr: I see.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And also, where is this going? What is it being used for? It is a form of trespass.

Mr. Burr: It seems to me that anybody who can reclaim anything is to be commended rather than condemned, other things being equal.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Burr: Oh, no!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand that controlled salvaging—as you know you have some of these scrap dealers and other people doing a certain amount of salvaging; we will use that word—from these sites, is quite all right. That is permissible. But not—

Mr. Burr: But he did not fit into this class.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —strictly not scavenging.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, in this connection, we did some work in North York with some of the early sanitary landfill sites. The disposal services did the first one for us and they had a system by which they salvaged a great deal of the metal and other things that they could dispose of easily. They did it as the trucks came in and unloaded, or at least they had a system by which this was taken off at that point. Then they could dump where they wanted and control the whole matter of in-filling and all the rest of it. But for private companies to come in and do it as a separate proposition is very difficult. It is almost impossible to control the two opposite poles, if you will. The one wants to do a good scientific job of dumping and filling and then covering. The other fellow is concerned with getting the maximum stuff out and he is messing

things up pretty badly. Unless it is an integrated job done by the one co-ordinated group, it is almost impossible to do it properly, and I think this is where the trouble comes.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 503 carried?

Mr. Deacon: I just want to make one last point. The member for Sandwich-Riverside mentioned how attractive some of these incinerators were. I was in Lausanne a couple of years ago beside a residential area. We were only half a block from an incinerator, but I had no idea there was an incinerator there. They can be made very attractive.

The other thing is that I do not think we should be so concerned about burning the products of the forest that we are incinerating. If we are replacing fossil fuels in plants that now produce steam, what is the difference between producing the steam from the garbage and putting in coal or oil or natural gas into the Lakeview plant?

Mr. Burr: Yes, otherwise it just goes up the chimneys.

Mr. Deacon: It is a straight matter of being certain that we utilize the products properly. I urge the minister to take steps to co-ordinate that.

Mr. Young: There is just one question, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask about the cost. I raised it yesterday, or the last day we were on this, incidentally. These plants have been engineered in Germany and other places and they are pretty efficient, up to 98 per cent. They are good. They do a job. They do the heating and they salvage costs. Does what was said tonight mean that we are going through all that engineering process once more here in Metro Toronto, that another firm is going to engineer and build, rather than get the plans from the Europeans who have already had the experience and can do the kind of job that needs to be done?

It seems to me that here is a cost that does not need to be built into an incinerator. If we can co-operate with people who have already done the engineering, done the building, know the job, we can profit by that experience.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no question that the consultants that will be employed by Metro will be aware of the latest methods of incineration. There is no question about that.

Whether or not they will do it in a way that will save Metro money, I do not know.

Mr. Young: Copy the plans and charge it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. That is like building schools. We always think why do they not use the same plans again. Certainly, it is my information that they will have the latest methods. It is not as if it was a particular patent or anything. These are quite available, and there is no reason in the world why a consulting firm in Toronto cannot use the same methods, the same design and engineering, that a firm in Europe is using.

But whether or not they will take anything less than five or 10 per cent, I could not tell the hon. member.

Mr. Young: This may be another argument to buttress the argument of my friend from York county, that you yourself ought to be taking over this process as far as the province is concerned, as we begin a really scientific job in building incinerators.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean we do not hire consulting engineers?

Mr. Young: You might go to Germany and get the plans.

Mr. Deacon: I would ask you, Mr. Chairman, to compare the estimated cost of the Lakeview incinerator that is being discussed—which is around \$16,000 a ton capacity—and the Hamilton one, which was designed by a Hamilton engineer and is around \$8,000 to \$9,000 at its ultimate capacity. So there is a saving if we have our local engineers—maybe they are just about as good as there are anywhere.

Vote 503 agreed to.

On vote 504.

Mr. Chairman: Air management programme. Mr. Martel.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Chairman, just on a point of information if I might: Do we discuss noise pollution under this vote?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I suppose it is as good as any.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You fellows had better make up your minds. Your deputy minister shook his head. What vote do you suggest?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no vote.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I know.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If you want to make a recitation on noise pollution, why not go ahead anytime.

Mr. T. P. Reid: In other words, this will be as good as any place.

Mr. Chairman: As long as it is not too long.

Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I have a few questions that I want to raise with the minister. I attempted to raise them last year and got no answers.

The annual output in the Sudbury area of SO_2 from the Falconbridge Nickel Company is in the neighbourhood of 374,120 tons. The annual output at the International Nickel Company, using the minister's own figures, is in the neighbourhood of 1,870,600 tons of SO_2 annually.

And we will see a reduction by 1978, according to the minister's news release, of some 90 per cent in total, which will leave us more emissions, using those figures, than Trail, B.C. had to clean up in 1934 and which was devastating for an area of 52 miles beyond the Trail plant.

With this quantity of emission, Mr. Minister, I want to know what the anticipated results on vegetation are; but as well I want to know if you were taking into consideration, at the time you were discussing these things with International Nickel and the Falconbridge Company, the fact that they are increasing production?

And in the estimates that you made, if the increase in production of 30 per cent as suggested by the International Nickel Company over the next number of years, which will add in April alone another 561,000 tons annually of SO_2 emission—what are the effects going to be?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. When we laid down the ministerial orders which, as the hon. member knows, are over a period of time—about 1978 in one instance—we took into consideration at that time what information the plant had as to their future expansion. I think it was fair to say that we based our timetable on that—

Mr. Martel: On the increase?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: On the increase, right!

Mr. Martel: This is a very serious concern.

Most people in the area are of the opinion, Mr. Minister, that you were basing the figures on the emissions when the order came out on July 21, 1970, and not on what the anticipated increase would be in both plants.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We had that information. And as the hon. member probably knows, the procedure is under The Air Pollution Control Act, under section 8, when we impose or place a ministerial order on the company, there is some discussion. We say this is what we are going to ask you to do. We give them a chance to say no and why not.

There are lengthy negotiations, depending on the size of the industry and type of industry, between the air management branch and maybe the environmental branch of that particular company. And then we come to a final order with dates, schedules and the type of equipment we are requiring to be installed.

And certainly both Falconbridge and Inco howled loud and clear; they made submissions that because of their increased capacity they could not do such and such by 1973 or 1974. So based on our knowledge and on the practical knowledge that we had and what was available as far as technology is concerned, the time for installation and the cost, based on the increased capacity, the ministerial order that is now in force was the result.

Mr. Martel: Is the minister aware that the amount of emission will be in the neighbourhood of five or six times—when it is finalized—the amount of emission that Trail, B.C. had to clean up in 1934, in actual tons per year?

That being the case, Mr. Minister, we are still going to see great devastation heaped upon the area. I get these figures from the United States; it is American documentation from The Department of Health, Education and Welfare. We are still going to have four or five times more emission than the Trail plant had to clean up in 1934. What are the effects going to be then?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You keep raising this business about Trail. We cannot get confirmation on your figures frankly, and therefore we cannot really dispute them or confirm them.

Mr. Martel: I have them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All we know is that in Trail, because of the location of that plant, which was basically in a valley, because of the concentration the emissions there would not be comparable to the emissions in the Sudbury area. Certainly the stack height in

Trail does not compare with the new stack at Inco. So the solutions we are using at Sudbury may not be the same as the remedies applied in Trail.

Mr. Martel: Yes, but for example, in Falconbridge it does go down a valley, it goes right down—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well you have that one area—

Mr. Martel: Yes, it goes straight down a valley, right from Falconbridge right into Coniston and on to Wanapitei, and there was an increase—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Under certain atmospheric conditions.

Mr. Martel: That is right. The figures you supplied to me I think indicated that in 40 days they exceeded the emission level on 31 occasions.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no denying there is a problem in Happy Valley, no denying that.

Mr. Martel: Well, it is not very happy for the 24 families living there.

And I might add, Mr. Chairman, I wrote the minister the day before yesterday to the effect—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the answer there is going to be to move those families.

Mr. Martel: Sure, but they are playing a game, Mr. Chairman, they are now trying to give the impression the municipal council is going to buy them out. They are not admitting to the residents, those 24 families, the fact they have to be moved out as a result of the emission. What they are trying to do is the council is trying to buy them out; and in their own words, "You cannot expect to trade in an old car on a new one." And they are bantering around a figure of \$120,000 for 24 homes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh let us stick to the estimates!

Mr. Martel: No, it is as a result of air pollution. I have asked in my latest letter for more readings, simply because with the testing going on in the new plant at the present time the emissions are much worse and have been all spring. The company, which really is responsible for moving those people, is going to the municipal council rather than coming right out and laying the

cards on the table as to why it wants them out.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh I do not think there is any secret about that. Because of the nature of the location of those homes in relation to the plant and under certain atmospheric conditions—the prevailing winds—the company does not deny there is a problem. But it is a question of what you want to do: Close that plant and let them stay there and then they will not have any problems—

Mr. Martel: No.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —or will they install a—

Mr. Martel: Pay them a decent price for the house!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do not get me involved in whether they are paying the proper price for those homes. That is something—

Mr. Martel: All right, if you started to force them to cut back production when the emissions are above what—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are doing that. Certainly they are doing that; but that is not good enough. The people are suffering in the meantime.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. It is a matter of closing the plant or moving those people.

Mr. Martel: All right. When are they going to move them out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, you are going to have to talk to Falconbridge about that.

Mr. Martel: No, you are going to have to talk to Falconbridge. You are the minister responsible for pollution. Not the 24 families in Happy Valley, not me—you!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well I understand Falconbridge is prepared to buy their homes.

Mr. Martel: Yes, something like \$120,000 for 24 homes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you want me to get in and negotiate the price of those homes?

Mr. Martel: No, but I expect you to get in and lay it on the line that they have to move those people out. And if you are going to move them out at \$5,000 a house, there is another think coming. They give the impression at council meetings that the township of Falconbridge council is doing this

out of some magnificent gesture because they cannot provide water; and that is a lot of nonsense.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do those people own those homes?

Mr. Martel: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They do?

Mr. Martel: Right; and the property!

And they are being given the impression that they cannot be provided water because it is too far away. But they are not laying it on the line as it is, Mr. Chairman, and they are not even sitting down to negotiate in good faith.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well I do not mind looking into it and finding out. You are saying the municipality is just as bad as the company, are you?

Mr. Martel: The municipal councillors are all company officials.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I see. But there must be a few miners there?

Mr. Martel: There are miners in the municipality, but not on the council. Harold Bondett is an official of the company; the reeve is an official of the company. What else do you expect? And the impression they are trying to convey is that they are doing it because they cannot supply water, when you and I know it is vastly different from that. They are no further ahead with negotiations than they were a month and a half ago.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I will look into that. I did not realize there were problems about settling the amount of the homes.

Mr. Martel: A delegation was out to see me on Saturday, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to bring one other point.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You know, if they cannot bring this thing to a head, if Falconbridge is polluting, we still have The Air Pollution Act; there are certain sections that can be utilized by those people.

Mr. Martel: But they do not have the expertise.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They can call on that.

Mr. Martel: You are asking a group of ordinary working people who do not have the expertise to take on the Falconbridge Nickel Company.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But this is an extreme situation with X number of families in the same situation. They cannot get any satisfaction from the company and there is no reason why they cannot band together and take whatever drastic step is necessary to get satisfaction.

Mr. Martel: What do we have the department for?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well I am not saying this is the only solution. I have indicated that I will see what I can do to help, but in the meantime there is this other remedy as well.

Mr. Martel: One other problem, Mr. Chairman: In the minister's Act, The Air Pollution Control Act—and I spoke to the minister about this last year—nowhere does it mention destruction to soil as a result of air pollution.

I have a letter I would like to put on the record from Dr. Ross H. Hall, professor and chairman of the biochemistry department of McMaster University, with respect to air pollution and the concentrations of SO₂ which destroy the soil. It is addressed to a Mr. Bill Hrinivich of the Sudbury and district committee on pollution:

Dear Mr. Hrinivich:

As you are undoubtedly aware, sulphur dioxide dissolves in the moisture of the air to form sulphurous acid; some of these may be neutralized by alkaline pollutants in the air, but much of the sulphur dioxide remains in the gaseous (potentially acidic) form. All sulphur dioxide emitted to the atmosphere eventually reaches the ground; thus it will react with the soil. The soil has a limited capacity to neutralize acidic contaminants so that over a period of time the acidity of the soil will increase. Acidity is measured in pH units: seven is neutral, one is very strong.

Professors Sven Brohult and Svante Oden (University of Uppsala, Sweden) have studied the rate of acidification of soil in Europe. They report that in 1958 pH values below five were found in limited areas of the Netherlands.

I will just ignore that; it is immaterial.

The type of plants that grow in a given area will change as the acidity of the soil changes. In addition to the acidity question, the accumulation of sulphur as sulphates and sulphites in the soil will reach a point where these substances become

poisonous to plants. An insidious feature of this series of events is that once the soil becomes sterile it will not support growth for many decades (even if the smelter should cease to operate today). I do not have the original article by the Swedish workers, but I suggest that you write directly.

I appreciated very much receiving the report by B. R. Dreisinger and C. C. McGovern on the sulphur dioxide levels in the Sudbury area. The levels are really amazing. The United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare have made an exhaustive study of the harmful effects of sulphur dioxide on living things, including humans, and they conclude "a level of sulphur dioxide of 0.1 parts per million over a 24-hour period may produce adverse health effects in particular segments of the population." They also suggest that the maximum tolerable level for three minutes is 0.17 ppm.

Do the smelters at Copper Cliff or Falconbridge remove any of the sulphur dioxide from the flue gases or do they vent their entire production of sulphur dioxide in the air? This business—

I hope the minister gets this point:

This business of building a higher stack is a lot of nonsense. It does not reduce the amount of sulphur dioxide one bit. It merely distributes this toxic gas over a wider area. As you know, the smelter at Trail was forced to install sulphur dioxide removal equipment back in the Nineteen Twenties. The technology is available. There is absolutely no excuse for smelters to continue venting sulphur dioxide in the Nineteen Seventies. You and your fellow residents from the Sudbury area in effect are subsidizing the operation of the smelters by subjecting yourselves to increased risk of serious health problems. Unfortunately this fact does not enter the financial balance sheets of Inco.

That is signed by the professor and chairman of the biochemistry department at McMaster.

What he is in effect saying is that the soil in the Sudbury area is sterile—completely sterile—and nowhere in your Air Pollution Control Act is there any mention of what you will cover. In fact, in section 11, you say,

Where a person complains that air pollution is causing or has caused injury or damage to livestock or to crops, trees, or

other vegetation which may result in economic loss to such persons, he may, within 14 days after the injury or damage becomes apparent, request the minister to conduct an investigation.

Mr. Minister, in the entire area the soil is sterile; it is dead. I have asked you for over a year now to include in this section of the Act a section that would deal with companies that are causing sterility of the soil, and I am still waiting. Nothing has happened.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Where is the damage there?

Mr. Martel: In the Sudbury area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You say it is causing sterility of the soil.

Mr. Martel: Because of the increased concentrations of SO₂.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no. Is there a parcel of land with sterile soil? Where is the damage element there?

Mr. Martel: What is happening, Mr. Minister, is there is a retardation of growth, as the plant takes in the—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, that is covered by section 11.

Mr. Martel: You cannot see it, Mr. Minister, and people are not formally claiming it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If you are talking about vegetation of any kind—crops, anything like that—that is covered in section 11.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, how do you prove it? For example, the Hanmer basin, where I live, for two years won the potato championship of the world, and today most people are not producing a potato.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Then there is damage to their crops.

Mr. Martel: How do you determine it? You cannot see it happen. It does not cause the plants to become brown; so people know emissions overnight. The fumigation will cause the plants to become brown; so people know that their crops have been damaged. We are having retarded growth in the vegetation because of the increased acidity of the soil. And you cannot even see it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is still covered.

Mr. Martel: No, it is not.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It says "within 14 days after the injury or damage—"

Mr. Martel: You cannot see it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: "—becomes apparent."

Mr. Martel: It does not become apparent.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, it would at some time.

Mr. Martel: The growth is slow.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: At some time it would. It would affect the crop at some time. Otherwise there is no damage.

Mr. Martel: Well, if you have got smaller potatoes than previously, can you see it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right. It affects the crop.

Mr. Martel: Do you notice that in 14 days?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, but later you notice the damage. You can wait a year, two years, three years.

Mr. Martel: But how do you know? Do you measure last year's potatoes against this year's?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, that is an idea. If your crop is materially affected from one year to another, certainly.

Mr. Martel: And then you will go into the point that the climatic factors last year were responsible for retarded growth, there was not enough water, there was not enough sunshine—a whole host of reasons why their potatoes were not as good.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no; these boards are very very broadminded.

Mr. Martel: Oh come on, Mr. Minister; you know who goes around and arbitrates them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They lean in favour of the complainant.

Mr. Martel: Soils are becoming sterile and you do not have it covered in your Act.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think we have sufficient leeway. This Act is broad enough to cover the damage to which you allude. In other words, if crops are damaged because of contamination to the soil the grower must suffer some sort of loss.

Mr. Martel: There is one other problem though.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It has to be basically some sort of crop vegetation, trees, shrubbery, livestock or what have you.

Mr. Martel: What happens when the soil itself becomes sterile? There is no vegetation in the Sudbury area. What caused it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is what I say. Really there is no question that the controversy is—the whole question is that the plants up there had something to do with it?

Mr. Martel: Right, and the soil up there—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right, and it has been going on for years and years.

Mr. Martel: Right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right!

Mr. Martel: But you do not hear of the sterility of soil in other areas. What is your highest stack, Mr. Minister? For example, there is the accumulative effect when this material falls; it might be more diluted, but it is going to fall in other areas.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: On this business about this high stack, we have had the same nonsense about the Hearn plant and anybody who says that the high stack will not do any good is wrong.

Mr. Martel: I did not say that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right. At the same time that you did not say that, we are not saying that the high stack is the ultimate answer, but it does help.

Mr. Martel: All right, but I am talking about over the years.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is all we are claiming for high stacks.

Mr. Martel: The sulphur dioxide is not going to leave the soil, is it? And we are going to have cumulative deposits over the years which are going to increase the acidity of the soil.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And it is going to be outside that Sudbury area.

Mr. Martel: Oh sure, it is going to be outside it! It is going to be in the French River area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I know, but certainly it is going to be of much less effect in that French River area than it would be in Sudbury.

Mr. Martel: No one is disputing that, but over the years it is going to accumulate and you are going to have the same process go on in the vegetation down there as went on previously in the Sudbury area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What do you suggest we do?

Mr. Martel: I say you should put a section in your Act that if somebody causes sterility of the soil to the point where everything becomes denuded, as in the Sudbury area, they then are responsible and must clean up.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You might be interested in this section about what we are going to do up there this summer.

Mr. Martel: I hope so.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: During the 1971 growing season the soil toxicology section will carry out the following programme in the Sudbury area—at the request of the local member:

The network of 11 meters to continuously record atmospheric sulphur dioxide during the growing season will be operated in co-operation with the air quality and meteorology section. This air quality data will be summarized by computers in Toronto.

The surveillance of vegetation at the recorder stations will be continued, in addition to weekly examinations of native and cultivated vegetation for the presence and degree of sulphur dioxide injury. Samples of vegetation, soil and pond water will be collected periodically for laboratory analysis.

The samples will be analysed chemically for contents of total sulphur, sulphate, nickel, copper, cobalt, selenium, arsenic, iron and zinc.

Mr. Martel: Will you do one other thing?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The programme has been started with the co-operation of The Department of Lands and Forests to develop clones of eastern white pine trees which possess varying degrees of sensitivity and tolerance to atmospheric sulphur dioxide.

Mr. Martel: Will you do one other thing?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is what I have all those SWEEP fellows doing up there.

Mr. Martel: Right. One other thing then. The government some years ago included in the deeds for the land in the Hanmer basin, interestingly enough, a little article—it appeared after most of the people got their

land back after the Depression—which stated that any of these lands which this clause was written into could not go after the companies for polluting the vegetation and the soil. Are you willing to remove that section from those titles?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think it is.

Mr. Martel: I do not think it is.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it is. I think that, by the fact that we have revoked The Damage by Fumes Arbitration Act, which is referred to in those deeds, I think that has been eliminated from the deeds; this is my understanding.

Mr. Martel: Would you actually clarify that for me, Mr. Minister, because—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, I think that is one of the reasons we did it.

Mr. Martel: That is one of the reasons why most people have not complained, because that thing that was in your deed did not give them a right to use The Damage by Fumes Arbitration Act. The majority of the people were denied that right because of the clause which had been put in your deeds.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is like—well, I will not draw—

Mr. Martel: Go ahead!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You can see why it was put in there. I think this property was pretty close to the Sudbury area, was it not?

Mr. Martel: Well, 15 or 20 miles.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Was it that far away?

Mr. Martel: The majority of it is out in the Hanmer basin.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It would be a constant problem in those days, there is no question about it. I suppose it was a form of warning. In other words, by the exemption people would realize that maybe there would be problems as far as sulphur dioxide and other fall-out from the plants in respect to sulphur.

Mr. Martel: All right, I am going to let it go at that. I am still not satisfied.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am quite sure that the revocation of that section, or the whole Act—

Mr. Martel: I just want to finish up. I am just a little disappointed in the minister in that, based on Dr. Hall's indication that soils

can become so great in acid content as a result of SO₂ that the soils become sterile, I just think your department has to take a look.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think that this—

Mr. Young: Agricultural lime may be the answer.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This experiment, this survey that we are carrying out, I am sure that if the soil is as bad as you say and as bad as Dr. Hall says, it is quite possible we will amend the legislation.

Mr. Martel: The Lands and Forests people agree with me. They maintain that in the Sudbury area now they are going to have to go right back to starting with moss and lichen to eventually get some type of vegetation in that area. That means the whole cycle of soil and so on has to be gone through in order to get vegetation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You know there are some fine farms out there in the nickel belt

Mr. Martel: Yes, but the winds, Mr. Minister, are northwesterly winds and they blow toward Coniston and down into that region so that the basin is only—when we get a southwesterly wind once in a while, we get the fall-outs, the fumigations which are actually noticeable; they only come on those occasions. Otherwise, in that particular part of my riding the member for Nickel Belt's (Mr. Demers') riding, we do not see the effects.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Chairman, like my friend who just finished, I have a few short points and perhaps I will be a little shorter than he. I would just like to say a few words about noise pollution.

I am a little disturbed. There is no particular vote or even money set aside for noise pollution under the estimates. We are told that noise pollution is possibly the most insidious form of pollution, in that the people who are exposed to it are really not aware of what is going on. It can affect the nervous system and the psychology of the individual.

I wonder if the minister can indicate why there is no particular programme or research programme under his estimates dealing particularly and specifically with noise pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might say—I suppose it is history now—but at the present time any control of noise pollution is being left at the

local level. There are some municipalities which have passed anti-noise bylaws. We expect our new bill, the new omnibus bill, to include a section dealing with noise.

One of the problems, as I am sure the hon. member knows, is the setting of standards; the whole business of decibels; how much noise can people stand; to what degree does it affect an individual's health. And then setting out very elaborate regulations dealing with all various sources of noise, whether they are Ski-doo's or lawn-mowers or motor vehicles or what have you.

An hon. member: Air conditioners, include them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right! And those hot-bombed, double—

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask the minister, first of all, upon what standards is his department going to base these standards that are supposedly going to come out? Secondly, what research is his department doing in this regard, if any?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Really the amount of research that we have done is not that elaborate. There are a number of private companies which are in the field or business of monitoring sources of noise pollution, which are conducting certain—

Mr. T. P. Reid: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I am sorry, I cannot hear.

An hon. member: It is the noise pollution.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Our standards, of course, will be based on judgments as to effect on health. I think California, for example, has legislation at the present time, so I would assume that our legislation would be somewhat similar to theirs, based on their experience. This has been the problem, really, with setting regulations for noise pollution.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Does the minister not feel and think that up to this time, leaving it to the individual municipalites, which certainly do not have the resources either to find out what has gone on in other jurisdictions or to carry out any research in this regard—that this is a complete abnegation of his responsibility? Surely, for something like this, that applies to the province as a whole, a standard that is going to be laid down should be funded and researched by his department? We have had this argument to some extent before and one gets the impression from

listening to the minister that he does not really consider that noise pollution is a serious problem.

You do not? We will go on from there. In regard then to noise pollution two questions.

First, any new airport in the Toronto area has got to take into consideration, or rather any decision of the government for any new airport in the Toronto area has to take into consideration noise pollution. I wonder if the minister can indicate what effect a new airport, particularly if it was to handle the supersonic transports, would have on the health of the people who live in those areas?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Certainly when the decision is made for the location of a new airport, we are in a position to give some indication of what amount or degree of noise pollution would result from that airport.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Is the government undertaking any tests now to ascertain this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We can make tests, for example, at the Malton airport—

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am not saying "Can you?"

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am not aware of any. No.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How can you make a rational decision, supposing the federal government comes to you tomorrow and says, "All right, we decided on No. 3 site for the new airport?"

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I do not mind answering all these questions, but there happens to be no item for noise pollution in the estimates of this department. Why are you asking questions about something that does not exist?

Mr. T. P. Reid: If that is the case, I will leave that topic with the thought, Mr. Chairman, that I think that this has got to be the most ludicrous thing that the minister has ever said in regard to pollution. You admit baldly here that there is nothing in any sense for noise pollution under your estimates.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no research for noise pollution, that is right.

Mr. T. P. Reid: There is no estimate of any kind, not just research. I gather from that that there is no interest and no concern on the part of the government.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, there is. I just got through telling you that it is going to be

part of our new bill. There will be provisions for regulations dealing with noise pollution. What other jurisdictions can you name that have statutes and regulations dealing with noise pollution in the manner you are talking about?

Mr. T. P. Reid: California and New York and a number of European countries.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The State of New York has no such thing and you know it.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well I suggest you check that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: California has legislation.

Mr. Burr: Alberta?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Surely the fact that there is no vote, no allocation, can only lead us to wonder, you know, what are you going to base your standards on if the province is not doing any research in this regard?

The member for Sarnia (Mr. Bullbrook) went on most strongly and forcibly about the very fact that research in these areas—and he was not talking about noise pollution—is certainly sadly lacking. It causes us in this party great concern that there is not any, but, you know, how we can talk about something that is not there? We can only say that obviously you are not interested. I would like to go on—

Mr. Chairman: I think the minister pointed out that there is legislation coming before the House.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, this member is an old-line politician. This is the usual way he ends his submission.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): He is just a young fellow.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, just a young fellow!

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am aging rapidly!

I would like to make two more short points. One, on the phytotoxicology—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If I might answer his question: I am now advised that the National Research Council is setting guidelines by its noise pollution research. Of course, under The Highway Traffic Act we have certain laws dealing with noise so The Department of Health, or rather Highways, does a certain amount of limited environmental work; and there is also a certain amount of measuring going on.

For example, there have been some complaints in certain areas of Hamilton about noise on Highway 401. In isolated instances like that, they can measure the decibels in those areas to decide whether or not there is an extraordinary amount of noise and make certain engineering changes accordingly. As I have said before, it will be in the new legislation. In the meantime, we have been concentrating on air, water, soil and a few things like that.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I just have two short questions.

One on phytotoxicology, if I have pronounced that right. I notice in the annual report that various studies have been done across the province. I notice particularly that no study was done in the Atikokan area where Steep Rock Iron Mines and Caland Ore both have pelletizing plants that emit, among other things, red iron ore dust.

There has been some concern expressed that this is going to affect the vegetation in the area. The dust and whatever other emissions come out of those stacks is spread over a considerable area. If one is flying around the area in an aeroplane, the red dust on the vegetation is readily apparent at a great distance. I wonder if the minister can indicate if any studies have been done in that area and if there are any continuing studies and whether this emission from these stacks is deleterious to the vegetation in the area?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What area was that?

Mr. T. P. Reid: In the Atikokan areas. Steep Rock, Steep Rock Iron Mines and Caland Ore iron mine.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Apparently until now they have not, but they intend to go in there this year.

Mr. T. P. Reid: They are going to monitor it this year? If I recall, I wrote a letter to the minister or someone in the air management branch about six months or a year ago. I got a report that all was well in that area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well would there be some monitoring going on there.

Mr. Drowley: We will be checking there this year.

Mr. T. P. Reid: But you are going to go in there this year and check it?

An hon. member: Is that a vote or something?

Mr. Chairman: Does the vote carry?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I had not finished my remarks. If I may, just two more points.

The air pollution index: Last year during the estimates, we went into great length that the air pollution index, as used in Toronto and various cities, was not overly sophisticated. I wonder if the minister can give us any indication if the air pollution index and the monitoring equipment has become any more sophisticated in the year since his estimates? In other words, at that time we were measuring only sulphur dioxide content and certain particulate content. Is the air pollution system or a monitoring system now measuring any other—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, not the index; not the index system. That includes three or four major cities in the province. We have monitoring systems for all kinds of contaminants and emissions.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I just have one more short question on auto emissions. The three main emissions from automobiles are carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxide. There has been a great deal in the press and in various technical publications about, among other things, lead-free gas. Personally I have read a number of publications, some of which say that lead-free gas is one of the greatest answers to automobile pollution, and others that say lead-free gas does not—

Mr. Burr: It is the greatest fraud.

Mr. T. P. Reid: —is the greatest fraud that has ever been perpetrated upon the public. All it apparently does, according to some experts, is allow the gasoline companies to charge anywhere from six cents to 20 cents more for a gallon of gasoline.

Can the minister indicate here tonight first of all—one, what the state of the expertise is on automobile pollution? And two, what decision has his department come to as to the efficacy of using unleaded gasolines in automobiles as a means of combating automobile pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As far as exhaust emissions are concerned, we have our regulations, Ontario regulations, that started with the 1969 model. The new standards limit the exhaust

emissions to 2.2 grams per mile of hydrocarbons and 23 grams per mile of carbon monoxide—

Mr. T. P. Reid: What about nitrogen oxides?

An hon. member: There are no limits.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Have we any limits for nitrogen oxides? We are going to be issuing regulations to cover nitrogen oxides this year.

The reduction in hydrocarbons in the 1971 model is 85 per cent from nothing on the pre-1969 model; 82 per cent on carbon monoxide from nil. What is this?

An hon. member: That is an increase in nitrogen oxides, but then we will get a decrease—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand that on the next year's model, because of the exhaust gas recirculation, we will be controlling nitrogen oxides.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): By our standards or American standards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Identical to the U.S.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How about lead-free gasoline? Has the department arrived at any kind of conclusion on this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Our research indicates, as the hon. member indicates, that unleaded gasoline is not all that great, as has been indicated in some areas. Apparently it could give rise to certain problems due to the fact that in order to use unleaded gasoline, certain parts of the engine must be made of a special type of steel, particularly if the engine is high compression.

When the engine operates on leaded gas, a coating of lead protects the surfaces of certain engine components—valves and valve seats—and prevents welding of the surfaces that come in contact with each other. If you use unleaded, a sufficient amount of lead may already have accumulated to provide the necessary protection, but if it undergoes a major overhaul, this lead will be removed and subsequent use of lead-free gasoline could then give rise to operating problems.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You know, these are the kind of things that are not coming out in public. They should be made public by your department. Do you not feel this, Mr. Minister?

Mr. B. Newman: Well it is consumer protection!

An hon. member: You know, I have the feeling that the gasoline companies are perpetrating a fantastic fraud with the silent concurrence of the minister's department.

Mr. Young: Lead, of course, does have an adverse effect on roadside vegetation and soil. This is where I think the big advantage of removing the lead lies.

Mr. T. P. Reid: One more question and then I will—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You might say that the Ethyl Corporation has been attempting to put this across on frequent occasions. That is the actual effect of unleaded gasoline. We are not saying, in what I have just said, that it is not of some benefit, but this is one of the weaknesses of their claims.

Petrofina, as the hon. member knows, has indicated in full page ads that it will not sell unleaded gasoline in this country and why. So there is some opportunity for the public to know.

Of course my information is that the unleaded gasoline is more expensive than the premium type of gas, so I would think that people buying the gas would have to be satisfied as to whether or not it is beneficial.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I do not feel that is sufficient, but I have one more final question.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only other point I wanted to make here is that I do not want to give the impression that I do not think there is some benefits from the unleaded gasoline. Is it not a fact that if the motor is adjusted in a certain way or certain changes are made in the motor, that the unleaded gasoline under those circumstances would give out less emissions than ordinary gas in an ordinary motor?

Mr. Drowley: Mr. Chairman, according to the state of technology today from the automobile manufacturers, in order to meet the 1975 requirements they would have to go to a catalytic muffler. In order to use the catalytic muffler they cannot use leaded gasoline, so this is the state of the art or development we are in right now.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, but has anyone checked on the manufacturer? You are taking his word solely for this now.

Mr. Drowley: No. There has been an awful lot of research done on the effect of lead on catalysts and this is a pretty well-known fact that they do poison the catalysts that they have been able to develop to date.

Mr. T. P. Reid: One final question, Mr. Minister. You have had various public service vehicles using natural gas, amongst other things I gather, but particularly natural gas rather than propane in departmental vehicles. Can you give us some idea how this has worked out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, but—

Mr. Haggerty: Farmers have used it in combustion engines for years.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have been using propane. The experimentation that we are doing, I believe, is with Public Works vehicles. They have been using propane on short trips, pretty well within the boundaries of Metro, for example, and it has been a roaring success.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Both mileage wise and pollution wise, or how? In what way has it been a roaring success?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: From the pollution point of view.

Mr. Burr: He must mean noise pollution.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The engine roars?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Gasoline does not necessarily make noise. What do you mean.

Mr. Burr: I was referring to the "roaring success"; I am getting tired!

An hon. member: He is reaching.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, it is from the pollution point of view; and as far as the performance is concerned there have been no complaints. There has been the odd fellow that has run out of a canister of gas and—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Is it economically feasible?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. The only thing is the problem of long trips, and having sufficient quantities. This is my understanding.

Mr. Haggerty: Farm tractors used to have it years ago. Remember the old steam car? Now we are going back to it.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister are you going to suggest then—

Mr. T. P. Reid: I was wondering if the minister would suggest to all the departments of government which use automobiles of one kind and another within the city of Toronto, and other government departments that use vehicles locally, if they would set an example for the rest of the community by using the relatively pollution free vehicles, run by either natural gas or propane?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well I certainly have no objection to recommending that. Just how much this will affect, shall we say, the private sector, I do not know. As I say, it has its limited benefits. Certainly for vehicles that are operating in this vicinity, say within a fifty-mile radius, this would seem to be a natural mode of transportation.

In the meantime, of course, we are hoping the internal combustion engine will improve to the extent that we claim our legislation will improve it, so that by 1975 you have hydrocarbons reduced by 97-98 per cent; you have got carbon monoxide reduced to 94 per cent and nitrogen oxides 93 per cent.

I think all states really, or various states in the U.S. as well as Ontario, have indicated to the automobile manufacturers that if these objectives are not reached by the middle of this decade to be prepared for more stringent legislation which may in fact affect the use of the internal combustion engine.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, how expensive was the conversion? Is it economically feasible from an expense point of view?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you mean, to use propane?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes.

Mr. Young: About \$450.

Mr. Chairman: You are through? Mr. Burr!

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to make some remarks about the auto emissions.

Mr. Young: About \$400; I am sorry!

Mr. Burr: Under California law, a low emission vehicle has emissions of no more than 11 grams of carbon monoxide per mile, compared with our standard of 23; 0.5 grams of hydrocarbons, compared with our 2.2; and 0.75 grams of oxide of nitrogen. Under California law too, the state is required to purchase at least one quarter of its vehicles from

a manufacturer who produces a low-emission vehicle and to pay a price of up to double that of a standard car.

Now, compare this interest in fighting pollution by the incentive motive that is paying more for cars that pollute less—with the recent price squabble in Ontario where the government has been threatening to buy foreign-made cars, not because they would pollute less or for any ecological reason, but because Canadian companies were not offering the usual discounts.

Last fall we heard a great deal of propaganda touting Ontario as having the toughest pollution laws in North America. This example shows that the Ontario government is still thinking in terms of economics rather than ecology.

According to the estimates of the federal Department of Health, motor vehicles are to blame for 60 per cent of the hydrocarbons, 50 per cent of the nitrogen oxides, and almost 100 per cent of the carbon monoxide and almost 100 per cent of the lead, as well as a large percentage of the asbestos pollution from the brake linings. Consequently, Montreal has been bathed in up to a million tons of carbon monoxide annually. Across Canada as a whole, almost one third of a billion dollars in wages and productivity has been lost as a result of respiratory diseases applicable to air pollution.

No one knows, of course, Mr. Chairman, the number of lives that have been shortened by those various forms of air pollution. The seriousness of the auto-exhaust pollution is generally acknowledged, but we have made relatively little progress. Any reduction in the individual vehicles is being met by the increasing number of those vehicles, which today stands in the United States at 92.7 million.

Now, there is one type of motor that has already been tested and proven and is in use besides the propane and the natural gas, and that is the electric battery-driven cars and trucks that are in use in the United States and also in the United Kingdom. In the United Kingdom house-to-house delivery trucks, which are probably the worst polluters of all vehicles when they are powered by gasoline, are switching to electric batteries. In the United States there are thousands of people who drive to and from work every day in electric cars.

Admittedly, these are not suitable yet for long-distance travel, like the propane and the natural gas ones. They must be refueled after

relatively short distances and relatively short intervals of time. In short, they are not as convenient as vehicles that are driven by gasoline. Nevertheless, although like any other modern product some pollution is involved in their manufacture, it is true that they do not emit lead, they do not emit hydrocarbons; but they do not emit the oxides of nitrogen or the deadly carbon monoxide which causes death to so many drivers.

Now if we as legislators are serious about improving the quality of air that we and our children are breathing, we should be considering ways and means of making electric autos and trucks popular. Information regarding their value ecologically should be publicized. If they are less expensive to own and operate, that should be publicized too. If they are more expensive, we should be considering incentives to increase their use.

For example, if the present licence is partly a licence to pollute, the owners of electric cars and trucks might be given free licences, inasmuch as they were not doing any polluting. As I said before, the present service station operators could replace and regenerate the batteries just as they now refill the tanks with gasoline.

Perhaps establishing a pool of rental cars might make their use feasible for some who would not otherwise be interested in buying them. In any event, the promotion of electric cars would spur the efforts of those who hope to save the gasoline engine, because obviously time is running out and I think they would redouble their efforts. If it is possible to save the gasoline engines it should be done with all possible speed.

What I am wondering is has the minister anybody in his department who is working on this aspect of traffic exhaust pollution? We cannot wait indefinitely for someone to make the gasoline engine pollution-free. In fact many engineers believe that it cannot be done. It is up to us to promote the practical alternatives now, and we should promote them vigorously.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well Mr. Chairman, first of all the hon. member mentioned California and mentioned that their standards are better than ours. I think the important thing is not what happens to be on the regulation or in the statute, but is what is in fact being enforced, and the vehicles in California are pretty much the same vehicles that are made and sold and used in Detroit, or New York or Ontario. These vehicles are achieving certain results, and we have indicated what

those results are and what we hope they will be. I know of no extra requirements or equipment that is required by the state of California that is effectively reducing the amount of emissions below our standards.

Mr. Young: Are there not more inspection facilities?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well I do not know. The fact is are they really like New York? You know they have pretty high standards for the use of sulphur fuel—much higher than ours—but they are not making people adhere to them, because they cannot. I have no objection to the idea of having our government use more propane-type vehicles which would assist in the reduction of the amount of air pollution over an urban city.

I do not agree with the submission that is being used over and over again by the cynics who do not feel there is any hope for the internal combustion engine, that the number of vehicles are increasing every year, therefore we are not making any progress. As far as I am concerned, by the process of redundancy or elimination, when the day comes that the oldest vehicle on our highways will be a 1969 or 1970 vehicle, there is bound to be tremendous improvement over the situation as it is today, regardless of how many more vehicles we are using.

And of course there is a limit to the number of vehicles. I will not get into that, but there is a limit to the number of highways we can build; so as we look to other modes of transportation I think we will reach our objectives, and also reach our objectives as far as the total situation in the atmosphere over our cities is concerned.

As far as research in the little old province of Ontario is concerned, we have not really the capacity to get into this type of research. The industry is involved, and quite heavily. I had the opportunity to visit the Ford plant in Dearborn. They have an electric car, they have a natural gas car, they have a propane car, they have a steam car—these are all being worked on.

There is a substantial amount of research going into these various types of vehicles, and if we get to the point where we really clamp down on the internal combustion engines they are going to be in the business of making these other types of cars.

As a matter of fact at the present time they say these vehicles are not saleable to the ordinary user of an automobile who travels, say, somewhere over 15,000 or 20,000

miles a year and wants to use a car for all purposes. Part of the reason, of course, is that there are not the regenerating stations or there are not propane depots and things like that. There is no question that is the reason, but they are prepared to move into this area in the event that our regulations on the internal combustion engine are not adhered to.

In the meantime, they are working on the internal combustion engine and they apparently, as far as our testing is concerned, are meeting the regulations we are setting out for each of these model years.

One of the problems of course, as the hon. member knows, is not so much the new vehicles that come off the assembly line, but apparently it is still possible to disconnect some of these emission control devices and that, coupled with the fact if a person does not keep his motor in good shape and have a regular tuneup, means the emission control will not do the job that it is intended to do. In other words you will not get the reduction that you should have.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you have the same regulations on the diesels that come through our municipalities?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What do we do with diesels? Are we—

Mr. Haggerty: I will tell you some of them can put out a fog of smoke—smog, I should say.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Apparently the diesel fumes are not as hazardous to health, although the smell is even worse.

Mr. Haggerty: It really sticks though.

Mr. Young: The diesel properly adjusted does not emit smoke.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, just in connection with this development of the other types of cars, I wonder whether we have any real assurance that the motor car companies are really pushing this? I think back to 1966 when the testimony in Washington was interrupted at one point to tell us that the motor car companies had been in collusion to prevent the installation of emission controls. Quite a few states are now actually bringing suits against the companies at this point because of that collusion and the damage they have caused over the years because they did not do this.

I think when they did finally begin this they based their control on a patent that was issued in 1909. In other words they knew how to do these things for a long, long time before they were forced by government action to really go to work on it. Are we sure, or have we any assurance at the present time, that they are really pushing on the electric car, on the steam car, on these other models to supplant the internal combustion engine as long as their high pressure salesmanship can sell to the American public the other kind of a car which does not involve a real structural change?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Let us face it, I am sure that the extent to which these companies are going at the present time is to perfect these other types of vehicles as much as possible. I do not think they are promoting the sale of them at all. I really do not think they are, and I am hoping really that they are concentrating on the internal combustion engine.

But the internal combustion engine mode of transportation is so much a part of our life and our economy, it is almost sacrosanct. When you think of the automobile and the petroleum industry and the parts industry and the whole bit that is tied in with the automobile, there would have to be a complete change and turnover.

Mr. Young: If they could make that change, then of course that is a consummation devoutly to be wished all right, and I think it would be the best solution.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No doubt about it. As long as you find something to do for my brother-in-law who runs an Esso station up here on 401.

Mr. P. T. Reid: He could sell propane.

Mr. Young: Yes, sell propane. He could recharge batteries and charge the same as he now charges for gas.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Or we could make him a licence issuer.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 504 carried?

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, my point is that the auto companies are not going to push these other pollutionless kinds of vehicles at the present time. At least they are not doing it. It is up to somebody who has an interest in the ecology, like yourself, to do this. Now many homes have two cars, one for the wife to go shopping in and the other for long

distances. These second cars could quite easily become the type we have been discussing, the type that would not cause any pollution and the ones that would not go any great distance; therefore they could be recharged and refueled quite easily.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I say, I think first of all the automobile companies—and this is what they led us to believe on our visit and I have no reason to disagree with them—that they are trying to perfect these other types of cars. They are continuously experimenting with them, using them. As you know, Lear could not sell his vehicles; he could not succeed—and he was a pretty competent individual—because of certain kinks which he could not eliminate from his type of vehicle. So the automobile industries, with all their expertise and depth, are still working on this. But even from the monetary point of view, a very selfish point of view, the automobile companies know there is a great deal of concern about the environment today, and there is a great deal of discussion about different modes of transportation, particularly public transit. They know if they do not find a solution to the internal combustion engine or perfect some other mode, that more people will be using public transportation and our whole society will be geared less and less to the individual vehicle.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, do you know anything concerning the pollution potential of the Wankel engine?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The Wankel?

Mr. B. Newman: The W-a-n-k-e-l.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is that in Windsor?

Mr. B. Newman: Not yet, but it will be probably. Apparently it was a North American discovery and the manufacturers refused to adopt it and apparently the Japanese now have the rights to the engine and are selling those rights back to the North American manufacturing firms. I understand it is the rotary type of engine and I understand it is fairly well pollution-free in relation to the standard type of North American engine.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It was invented by Throckmorton J. Wankel.

Mr. B. Newman: W-a-n-k-e-l.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What does it use for fuel?

Mr. B. Newman: It uses gasoline.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Three mice and a turnstile; completely pollution-free!

Mr. Chairman: Vote 504 carried?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. The only thing I can answer to the hon. member is that apparently General Motors has the rights for this car and certainly—getting back to economics again—if it will sell, I am sure the people will buy it and use it.

Mr. B. Newman: The reason I bring this up is that the member for Yorkview made mention of the industry holding back and refusing to develop or adopt certain inventions that have been known to them for years. Now this engine was known to the North American auto manufacturers and they apparently refused to adopt it because it would completely supplant the normal type of motor. But the Japanese, who would gamble, undertook to develop it a little further and now they have got it to the point where it is used in vehicles—in fact, the Japanese Mazda uses that type of rotary engine. From the Popular Science magazine I understand it is not the pollution producer that the average North American engine is. If it is part of an answer, then maybe we should be pushing it a little more.

Mr. Young: They have not proved how to power the big cars though. This is the problem. It is a good small engine but will not do for the big ones.

Mr. Thatcher: Mr. Chairman, I just mention that it is really still in the development stage. Since the Wankel engine was first demonstrated there have also been at least half a dozen rotary type engines brought on the market that are similar, and some are alleged to be improvements.

All the major manufacturing companies, automobile manufacturing companies, have done some development work with this. I believe the German NSU company produced a vehicle—and, I think, still do—with the Wankel engine. There are some characteristics about it—the somewhat lower compression and the fact that you are not using pistons—that will probably give something less in the way of nitrogen oxide emissions. But by and large it is following the same combustion cycle that the ordinary engine is, and as I think the member for Yorkview just mentioned, it is a good small engine, but it is very difficult to get this in the larger sizes that are needed for heavier vehicles such as

trucks. I think it may have some promise, although it does not look at the moment as if it is the entire solution.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, before—

Mr. Chairman: Are you going to stay on the engines?

Mr. Young: No.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, concerning the trans-boundary pollution that we suffer from in the Windsor area, the minister is fully aware that it is said that no community in North America suffers from as much pollution that comes from another jurisdiction than does the Windsor area. Ninety per cent of the particulate matter that is measured by the two monitoring devices there has its origin in the State of Michigan. Ninety-four percent of the SO₂ that drifts in our way is American produced and exported.

I just wonder how far the minister has been able to get with Mr. Sterling of the Wayne county air pollution department, with the city of Detroit, with the State of Michigan, and likewise with the neighbouring municipalities in an attempt to come to some type of solution to the problem or some type of answer as to how much longer residents in the Windsor area are going to have to suffer from the export of this undesirable commodity?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member knows, officials of the air management branch have met with officials of Detroit and Wayne county. We are trying to get them to adopt the same standards as we have.

Mr. B. Newman: How successful are you?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well I am just going to get to that. Really, we have not been that successful up to now. However, I understand that there will be two more meetings next week, probably Monday and Tuesday, with these officials. They are at least talking with us.

Mr. B. Newman: Does it look promising?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it looks fairly promising. Our only answer is that if we do not make headway with these individual municipalities, we are hoping that the IJC in some way can assist in making some headway. Another thing, of course—we are depending on public opinion in Detroit and Wayne county.

Mr. B. Newman: Well the IJC has no authority to enforce anything. It is strictly an advisory body, so you cannot expect too much help from the IJC other than pinpointing the areas that are responsible for the pollution.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We can get a lot of help from IJC! After all, it is an international body with international representation, and who better to talk with people in Detroit and Wayne county than American officials.

Mr. B. Newman: Well you can talk with them. But as far as the IJC coming along and having any real authority to compel a municipality to follow certain standards, they have no authority; they cannot do it at all.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Neither have we.

Mr. B. Newman: I understand that; so I think the only answer is some real heart-to-heart talks and co-operation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right!

Mr. B. Newman: Does the co-operation mean that we are going to be willing to reduce our standards to find a halfway point between the standards that they intend to set or have set in the city of Detroit and the State of Michigan, so that we can hasten the day when this will no longer be a problem; then, once we have lowered the standards by some type of agreement, gradually increase those standards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I am not aware of any such thing. This was bandied about when I was down in Windsor recently. I do not know where this information or these ideas come from, but we do not intend to lower our standards. We have got our air pollution index setup based on a certain formula, and I do not see how we could possibly change it in Windsor unless we change it all over the province. So there will be no such thing as changing standards.

I cannot help but feel after my visit to Windsor that there is a feeling by the public, as a result of the IJC hearings and the IJC report about air pollution in the Detroit-Windsor area, that the public is getting on their officials in that state. I think you will see with the operation of their index, that they will come up with the same standards as we have.

I do not know where the hon. member is getting these figures about the amount of pollution that comes over from Wayne

county. I suppose that may be in the IJC report.

Mr. B. Newman: It is right in the report, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Some of it is I am sure.

Mr. B. Newman: It is accurate.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is accurate? All right, I am sure it is accurate; probably we measured it then.

Mr. B. Newman: In fact you are—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But I do not want to get into a long hassle about it. I am sure you are going to argue about the location of our monitoring systems in Windsor.

Mr. B. Newman: That is next.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But the index has not been all that bad.

An hon. member: It has not been all that good though.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, your own department mentions in the March 19 report that during the eight months from January to August 1970 the air pollution index has been estimated to exceed 32 at 471 University Avenue on five occasions.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Thirty-two is not bad.

Mr. B. Newman: It is at a time that you are already giving warning to people.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh no!

Mr. B. Newman: At 32?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All we do at 32 is to tell industry. In other words, if our people at the air pollution control—our meteorologists—can say that we are in a certain atmospheric condition, that there is an inversion that is liable to last for 24 or 48 hours and therefore the index is liable to continue to rise in view of that prediction, we ask industries at 32 to curtail their operations if possible but be prepared, in the event that it reaches 50, to substantially cut back or close down.

So this is sort of a first warning stage, as far as the reading is concerned. It is not injurious to health; it has no real effect on health. It is just the first stage in preparing for the cutback.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How far in advance can you predict an inversion by your monitoring system?

Mr. C. J. Macfarlane (Air Management Branch): Mr. Chairman, we think they are very accurate at six hours, reasonably accurate at 12 hours, and fair at 24 hours in advance.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well 24 hours is about the maximum really that you can tell?

Mr. Macfarlane: That is about right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know if you heard the discussion about it, but when we get the air pollution index around 32 or 35, can you predict the length of that inversion for any length of time? How long it is going to last and whether or not it gets worse?

Mr. Macfarlane: Yes, sir, we can. Within those limits again.

Mr. T. P. Reid: A 24-hour period?

Mr. Macfarlane: We are pretty good at 24 is going to last longer than 24 hours?

Mr. T. P. Reid: You cannot predict if it is going to last longer than 24 hours?

Mr. Macfarlane: Yes, you can make a prediction. The accuracy of the prediction, Mr. Chairman, decreases with the increase of time. Typically we are pretty sure of ourselves at ranges of up to 12 hours.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How long does an inversion usually last? Is there any kind of mean or average?

Mr. Macfarlane: Mr. Chairman, it is usually fairly short-lived in terms of half a day or a day. Sometimes we have had situations in which we have had a lack of ventilation lasting for two days. That would be unusual.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, you are aware that when the reading indicates 32 you are getting this reading from two monitors located away from the industrial complex in the municipality? So that while you are reading at 32 there, the people living adjacent to Windsor industry could be subjected, if you had a monitor there, to anything—maybe even in the hundreds.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think that you have raised this point over and over again and I think it is a lack of basic understanding of the air pollution index. I have explained it, but I guess not clearly enough.

You see, the 32 is a median reading—

Mr. B. Newman: Over 24 hours.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is an atmospheric condition over the city of Windsor—not on such-and-such a street, you see. It means the build-up in the atmosphere—not because of smoke from a particular plant or a flue; that is not what we are measuring. We are measuring the situation that is accumulated and built up over the whole city as a result of an inversion, and—

Mr. B. Newman: I understand that completely.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —those monitors will measure the whole area of that city, including the area you are talking about, but will give a median reading, which is the ultimate effect on the people in that section.

Mr. B. Newman: All well and good if the industry was not still polluting at that time. But while that industry is still emitting, you cannot tell me, Mr. Minister, that two or three blocks away from the Ford foundry that 32 reading is the same?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It could be lower.

Mr. B. Newman: I have gone in there, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Could be lower.

Mr. B. Newman: The problem with you is you have never gone into the industrial complex to see what the people suffer from. They suffer from all of the imported pollution, plus all of the home-made pollution and they are just in their complaint when they turn around and say that they can hardly breathe, that their homes are completely covered after an evening of emissions from the Ford foundry.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That does not necessarily mean it is during a high index reading.

Mr. B. Newman: All right Mr. Minister, let us assume—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It could be when the wind is in a certain direction.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. Let us assume it does not mean a high index reading, but let us say that these people can hardly live in the area when the emissions are pouring out of that plant—and when I say pouring out of the plant, I mean pouring out of the plant. All you have to do is come to the east side of the town and see for yourself and you will be convinced.

I have 150 different complaints from people of the area concerning this. Your department will get a list of all of these, because it is extremely serious, Mr. Minister. Something has to be done faster than is being done. I do not think that industry is working with the speed with which it can work and I think this is probably a result of the department maybe not pressuring them sufficiently.

I will carry on later, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 504 carry?

Some hon. members: No.

Mr. Chairman: We will adjourn, to meet tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock.

The committee adjourned at 10:35 o'clock, p.m.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Friday, May 7, 1971

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1971

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY AND RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT
(continued)

The committee met at 11.05 o'clock, a.m., in committee room No. 1.

Mr. B. Newman moves that Mr. Carruthers act as Chairman.

Motion agreed to.

On vote 504:

Mr. Chairman: All right; Mr. Newman!

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

One of the comments the minister (Mr. Kerr) made in just shop talk earlier was that on his drive or flight in from Hamilton this morning he noticed the amount of pollution hanging over the city. Now he is talking about a complex that is very small when you compare this area with the Detroit complex of approximately five million people and the extremely heavy industry, not only in the steel-making process but also in automotive manufacturing. He knows exactly what we talk about when we talk about the pollutants the Windsor and Essex county residents suffer from that are being exported to us from the American border. He is fairly familiar with the amount of inconvenience, the harmful effects of the pollutants that we get.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): It is chemical warfare!

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I think the member for Sandwich-Riverside really uses a good term there when he says chemical warfare, that is what is being waged against the people of Windsor and Essex county.

Yesterday, in my closing remarks, I made mention of the Ford foundry. I would like the minister at this time to inform us to what extent the Ford foundry—at what stage they happen to be in their attempt to overcome pollution from the foundry and also pollution from the electric generating plant?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Chairman, as the hon. member knows, this particular foundry has been the subject of many pollution complaints over the last couple of years. I understand that it has three cupolas; two are fitted with low-energy scrubbers and one is fitted with less advanced equipment. The last one is used as a standby only. There are seven electric arc holding furnaces. These emissions are collected by bag type collectors. Last year, about the middle of last year, it appeared that the particulate problems had been solved at that plant.

Mr. B. Newman: The minister really means "appeared," does he not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am just using the words "it appeared." I am not talking about the site. I am just talking about what is the result of our inspections. During the period of our inspections—which would be off and on, of course, they were not continuous for 24 hours a day or seven days a week, they were regular inspections. As a result of those it seemed the particulate problems had been resolved, but there were still a number of odour sources which had to be brought under control, in respect of which there was some complaint.

There was a foundry compliance date, which was the end of last March. There was some work done on two systems. In September there was a check on the cupola operation in case the collector units were passing aerosol type particulates which might be contributing to the general odour situation. There have been a number of meetings with company officials and stack sampling has been carried out in order to try to identify the odour source. The company, of course, is co-operating with us to attempt to do this and attempt to correct the situation.

It is my information that the company was not in compliance with the March 31, 1971, deadline date in controlling residual odours. I understand the company is planning to install high stacks for each cupola as a temporary corrective measure and the construction will be started on that right away.

The company has been advised by the air management branch that failing sufficient or significant improvement in odour control, violation notices will be issued as circumstances warrant.

Mr. B. Newman: Have any been issued?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, they were issued to the company on April 2, 8 and 28 respectively.

Mr. B. Newman: This year?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. This has been turned over to our legal department.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you intend to actually pursue this now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will certainly pursue it. I do not want to say here in the estimates committee just what legal action we are contemplating, but I could say, yes, we are going to pursue the matter as a result of the issuance of these violation notices.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, the minister's advisers may come along and tell him that things are moving along fairly well, but the residents in the area do not indicate anything like that. Likewise I, and I motor through the area, I would say three times a week, I find there does not seem to be any appreciable improvement. You still see the haze at periodic times, you still are confronted with odours, you still are confronted with some type of particulate matter.

Residents do not call your office in Windsor to the extent that they really should because they are frustrated. They figure what is the use of calling, you are simply going to get the same type of stereotyped answer that, "Ford will have this all taken care of within a certain period of time."

That is all well and good, but are they really working as fast as they can work in your opinion, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, that is why there have been violation notices issued.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you intend to continue issuing violation notices if they continue to pollute?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, we are probably going to go beyond that stage.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. Will you issue violation notices right along? You have the two that you have mentioned April 2 and April 28. If I go back home—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, there are three.

Mr. B. Newman: All right, what are the other dates?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: April 8 and 28.

Mr. B. Newman: Oh, April 2, 8 and 28. Now if a constituent from the area complains there is pollution coming out of the foundry end of the plant, will your department follow up and issue a violation against the company?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is always this tendency, I am afraid, to oversimplify a little bit. There is no question there is pollution coming from this plant. As to what degree of pollution, of course, we could get into that. But using the broadest concept of that word, there is pollution coming from this plant; that is why it is under a ministerial order to install abatement equipment.

The final compliance date for the ministerial order was March 31, 1971. The company did not do the things it was ordered to do. There is no question that all this time there are emissions from that plant which are contributing to the contamination of the atmosphere in that area of Windsor. So that should somebody call up and complain, we know this is going on. There is no sense issuing a violation notice.

Our violation notices are basically in respect of our ministerial orders. They have not complied with an order to install certain equipment, therefore they are in violation of that order and a notice is issued accordingly.

If, of course, there is a situation where there may be some extraordinary emissions of black smoke or something like this, which is not necessarily covered by that order, and which we had anticipated was under control—a more conventional type of breach of our regulations—again we could either issue a violation notice on that basis or take action.

Mr. B. Newman: The only thing that does disturb me, Mr. Minister, is you do not keep issuing violation orders and if you do come up in front of the courts, Ford Motor Company will plead, "Well, you only caught us three times."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no; all we have to do is catch them once.

Mr. B. Newman: Then they will say that they have corrected the problem. Whereas if you kept issuing violation notices then you have got them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, but we take action based on a breach on a certain time and date. We do not care if they have torn the plant down after that. We can still proceed on that violation.

Mr. B. Newman: I am only concerned that they will say, "Well, after April 28, we corrected all of the problems," whereas if you had records that even after that date they continued to pollute the atmosphere; from the public's point of view, they would feel much better. Otherwise they get the idea that here is big business dictating to the government. They immediately assume you are afraid of Ford and Ford is not afraid of you.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is an unfortunate thing. I agree with the hon. member there is no question it is doubtful that the public are aware of what I have told you this morning.

Mr. B. Newman: Right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only time really that they become aware of anything is when we sue them and take them to court and get a conviction, they read about it in the papers. Maybe we should have some form of regular bulletins indicating just what we are doing in this regard with various industries in the Windsor area.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, through you, Mr. Chairman, I have asked Ford Motor Company to meet with the public at a meeting to explain exactly what they have done, what they contemplate doing and how quickly they expect to finish everything. Ford, in their opinion, do not think that would serve any purpose.

I think it would really show the public they are more than simply headline-seeking, issuing press releases saying that they are going to spend X millions of dollars in overcoming a problem, but we never know how long those X millions of dollars are going to be spent. We do not know if that programme is over the next generation or maybe over the next 100 years. Whereas with a public meeting attended by Ford Motor Company and by officials from your department, I think the public could be alerted and made aware just exactly how rapidly the Ford Motor Company is proceeding with their elimination of the problems.

The reason why I bring this up, Mr. Minister, is that Chrysler has a foundry in Detroit which was supposed to have been

the latest in foundries; it was supposed to have a record of being a clean foundry. I can show you one and a half pages of complaints in the Detroit Free Press going back from the time the foundry was first set up. There has been complaint after complaint that the company was not living up to what they said they were going to do.

I do not know whether it is technical expertise that stops this or not. If it is, I think it would be good for them to be informing the public that we do not have the technical knowhow to overcome the problem. But for them simply to say that, "We will have it overcome by March 31;" and then we find when March 31 rolls around they have not done it, leads one to think that they are not as concerned as they probably should be.

Would the minister be prepared to issue maybe periodic bulletins on various polluters in all communities, not only necessarily the Windsor area, with information as to their progress—a progress report as to how they are coming along in overcoming the problem?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not want to tie up my staff issuing information when they are so busy doing other things—that is, trying to correct the problem. There is no question that this information is available for anybody that wants it.

I want to clarify a point that the hon. member seems to have missed in my earlier remarks. The Ford company has complied with this order, except for the odour problem. The company has spent \$2.2. million to treat their emissions and to get rid of the problem. As I mentioned, by mid-1970, or around August, the particulate problems had been resolved; the problem now is odour.

I think, as the hon. member suggests with the Chrysler plant—according to that news release—it is a problem of technology here. It is not a question of the company not trying to do something about it, but it is a question of technology. It is a question of having the really efficient, sophisticated equipment to completely eliminate the odours from that plant; in all other aspects the company has complied with minister's order.

One of the problems we have—I do not know if it necessarily has any relationship to the Ford plant—is that when we take these matters to court, we have problems getting people to testify, particularly where the potential witnesses might be employees of that company. Time and time again there have been instances where the complainers

have refused to go to court and give evidence because, "After all, I happen to work there and I do not want to get that involved." So it makes it difficult for us always to get the conviction we need to emphasize to the company that we are serious. This is particularly true in the case of odours.

Mr. B. Newman: I can understand that very well, Mr. Minister, because I have sent a questionnaire out into the area and at least half a dozen people phoned me up to complain because they did not want to have their names on the record as having complained of pollution from the Ford plant. They were afraid of their jobs. And others made mention to me, in a given area in the vicinity of Ford, that they would not reply because they were afraid of repercussions.

In fact, Mr. Minister, when I went to visit the Ford Motor Company offices to complain at one time and did get in, the plant protection man who let me in was severely reprimanded for letting me in, so you can see the threat that they use to try to hush-hush the problem.

Would the minister be prepared to list the polluters in the Windsor-Essex county area that have ministerial orders issued against them? Can you do that now, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You want me to read the list?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, unless it is going to take time, then I would—

Mr. Chairman: Maybe they would give you a copy of it instead.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Would that be satisfactory?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I will accept a copy later on from the minister.

Then, Mr. Minister, you are satisfied that Ford Motor Company is carrying out their programme as well as they can and as well as expert knowledge can be made available?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well no, I do not want to say that. You know we place some onus on the company when we issue a ministerial order requiring that certain things be done; we are satisfied that it is possible to do them. But there are some instances—and I think that the Ford plant in Windsor is a good instance, it is a fairly old plant where technology is not that sophisticated.

Mr. B. Newman: That is not an old plant, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How old is it?

Mr. B. Newman: It is new; the foundry of that plant was reconverted.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, I am thinking of it as a plant that has been there some time. I realize that maybe Ford has not owned it that long.

Mr. B. Newman: They had limited operations before.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, all right. All I am saying is that we are satisfied that what we require to be done can be done. I am just pointing out that, in all fairness, sometimes there is an engineering problem or a technical problem that prohibits complete compliance with our ministerial order, and in this case it was regarding odours.

We say, "You have not complied," we issue a violation notice, and if we are going to take people to court to sue them, they I suppose, would have to satisfy the judge that it is impossible to do what the air management branch wants them to do. I suppose if they could satisfy the judge to that extent, the case may be dismissed.

But I do not think it is the responsibility of the air management branch to completely satisfy itself that that can be done. In other words, not do anything if there is a possibility it cannot be done. The onus is passed on to the company because it will never be done if private industry does not develop the expertise to deal with their emissions so that they comply with our Air Pollution Control Act.

So we are saying that this is their excuse. There is some validity to this excuse, but at the same time we want the company to come up with a solution so that our order is complied with. That is why we issue a violation notice and why, if we proceed to court, only then will the court rule as to whether or not we are asking for something that is impossible.

Mr. B. Newman: The three violation notices that have been issued to Ford on April 2, 8, and 28; are they as a result of particulate matter?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, the odour.

Mr. B. Newman: Odour?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. The result of not complying with the deadline of March 31.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. Has the minister issued any order against the Hiram Walker Company?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand they are making some headway. The last information I had—have we got Hiram Walker here? Have you got it under Canadian Club?—under C?

Mr. B. Newman: Apparently they should have completed their project, the conversion to gas, by mid-1971. Can the department assure us that everything is up to date in there and that there would be no problems with the Hiram Walker people?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no ministerial order against Hiram Walker. They are converting to gas and apparently they have done this without an order.

Mr. B. Newman: Without an order?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: What is the department doing concerning the odour problem as far as Hiram Walker is concerned?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are putting an after-burner on to take care of odours.

Mr. B. Newman: And when should that be completed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: About the middle of this year I understand; about September.

Mr. B. Newman: Because, Mr. Minister, if you want a free drunk sometime, all you have to do is pass by the plant.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Your constituents may object if you are going to clear up that problem.

Mr. B. Newman: Oh, no. The mash cooking in there is really offensive at times. I live approximately two miles away and it is fairly well treed, but there is the occasional day that I can smell the Hiram Walker Company as far as my home. So you can see that there are days when it is exceptionally bad.

If you use the CN train to come into Windsor, or to leave Windsor, then you know just what one is talking about when he talks about an odour problem. It is a completely different type of odour.

May I ask the minister about the Dominion Forge company? They were to convert to natural gas. Apparently they are not being quite as successful as they would have liked

to have been in the automotive field because of certain possible restrictions on the manufacturing and the sale of articles to the United States and as a result may be curtailing production. How are they progressing with their project?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand the problem there was the emission of soot and smoke which occurred for intermittent periods throughout the day. They have engaged a consultant and apparently one of the suggestions has been a complete new boiler plant, so they are now decided to convert the existing boilers to burn natural gas and this conversion is targeted for mid-1971.

Mr. B. Newman: Mid-1971?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Not late 1971?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, this says mid-1971.

Mr. B. Newman: Then you have accelerated your date for them. That is very good to hear.

May I ask the minister about the Chrysler boiler plant? They are to convert from fuel oil to natural gas.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is the foundry?

Mr. B. Newman: No. The foundry has been closed now for years. The powerhouse—the boiler plant where they manufacture their power, south of Tecumseh Road.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not seem to have it here.

Mr. B. Newman: Page 5 of your March 10-11 report made to IJC carries some comment on it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is in Windsor, is it?

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no mention of the boiler plant here, Mr. Chairman. We will have to get that for you.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. I did not receive many complaints about the Chrysler plant until the last two months, and it was when they went back to full-scale production that the complaints really started to come in to me, living only about half a mile away from there. However, I do not get complaints to a great degree because the prevailing winds are westerly and I live on the west side of the plant. As a result, I would not know about it to any extent myself.

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): You must live over the tracks?

Mr. B. Newman: I beg your pardon?

Mr. W. Hodgson: You must live over the tracks.

Mr. B. Newman: No, I live on the same side of the tracks. May I ask the minister how the programme on abatement from schools is being conducted. Are they on a set time-table to overcome their smoke abatement?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Schools which are burning coal, is that it?

Mr. B. Newman: Apparently in one of your reports here you make mention that the boards of education and the hospitals were two of the problems still to be solved.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That still applies. We are still working with the boards of education and with the hospital boards, dealing with both schools and hospitals. In these older institutions there may be some problems from their heating units. If you have any specific school that you are concerned about, we can look into it.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask the minister if in monitoring, he intends to introduce additional monitors, even if only mobile, in the vicinity of the prime polluters?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member probably knows, we have a continuous air monitoring station at 471 University Avenue.

Mr. B. Newman: Is that yours or is that the DNH—The Department of National Health?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is ours—

Mr. B. Newman: That is yours.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Concentrations of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, oxidants, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and suspended particulate matter are measured. There is a 100-foot tower there. The 100-foot tower is located at the Morton dock terminal.

That is an instrument to measure wind velocity at two heights, the ambient temperature and the temperature differences. Sulphur dioxide and suspended particulate matter are also monitored at that location. This, I would assume, is for the index. The survey is to be enlarged this spring.

Dustfall and sulphuration rates will be monitored at 28 locations throughout the greater Windsor area, including Amherstburg and Tecumseh. At nine locations, measurements will be taken of fluorides by means of fluoride candles and suspended particulate matter by means of tape and high-volume samplers.

Mr. B. Newman: Has the minister ever noticed the map of the local area, indicating exactly the location of his monitors? You will notice that the monitors, the two monitors that you have, are not close to where the major Windsor pollution happens to originate? Should you not then, for a truer reading, an overall truer reading of the community, have a monitor adjacent to or within reasonable distance on the wind side of the industrial complex?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You just want high index readings, that is all you want.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): He wants both.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. I am happy with a good median figure.

Mr. B. Newman: You are not getting a median, Mr. Minister, if the winds blow always—or not always, but generally—from the west, and you are getting your readings only on two monitors on the west side of town. You are really not telling us the Windsor pollution index. I do not care for the pollution index. I care for overcoming—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: When you have winds, you do not get a high index reading. I do not care where the monitor is—you can put it right next to this Ford plant and have the winds from the plant blow directly over the monitor—

Mr. B. Newman: Now what are you talking about; winds?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am talking about when there is any wind velocity in a city, you do not get high index readings. That is what I have been trying to say over and over again. It is when you have certain atmospheric conditions, inversions, that you get a buildup of a high index reading. We do not want to confuse the index system and the information we get from that system with our regular monitoring of certain areas or certain parts of a city where we can indicate really, almost specifically, plants that are causing the problem.

If the hon. member feels, I think probably this is reasonable, that if we are going to add a third or a fourth monitor to the index system, there should be one in the industrial area. I think we have done that in Toronto. We plan to do it in Hamilton on the Beach Boulevard. There is no reason we cannot do it in Windsor.

Mr. B. Newman: I appreciate the minister—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But do not be surprised if you still do not get a higher index reading as a result of that monitor.

Mr. B. Newman: What you are really telling us, Mr. Minister, is that your pollution index really is an index of atmospheric conditions and not the amount of contaminate, particulate or SO_2 necessarily? Because when the plant is working and emitting pollutants, if the wind is blowing, those on the side of the wind certainly are being penalized—just simply being penalized.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): Bring the plants out to Lambton, we will take the penalties. Windsor apparently does not want them.

Mr. B. Newman: It is all right for the member there to holler about the plants. I am interested in the people and the over-coming of a problem that can be overcome by the industry. The minister as much as indicated that the problem could be taken care of by industry except that they were not working as quickly as they could have worked. I only want the minister to admit that an individual living adjacent to a polluting industry, regardless of what a pollution index may indicate, is being adversely punished by the pollutants when they are being emitted by the industry.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think that is probably a very safe and sound conclusion. If somebody is living next to an industry that is polluting, he is a little worse off than somebody living in Moosonee, for example.

An hon. member: Polar Bear Park.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Or Polar Bear Park, yes.

Mr. B. Newman: I would like to have the minister establish a monitoring station on the industrial side where the heavy industry is in the city, if only to satisfy the residents of the area that we are checking on industry and we know exactly what is taking place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty is next.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to discuss, on similar lines as the member for Windsor-Walkerville, the unregulated source of air pollution that affects the residents of the Niagara Peninsula, in particular Union Carbide, Welland, Ontario. I am sure that your staff or your office has received complaints even from school boards in the area. The citizens have also complained about the nuisance of smog and dust that comes from this industry.

I know in 1969 they spent \$10 million on new plant expansion and at that time the Union Carbide plant at Welland had been surveyed under section 8 of The Air Pollution Control Act of 1967. And yet, you know, I think this plant has been in existence for some 50 years in that area and it is still pouring out this pollution. There are times when you drive through that area—I am sure, you live in the area and you know—you have to drive with your lights on in broad daylight to see. That is how bad it is.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Great parking area.

Mr. Haggerty: These are some of the complaints that I get from the people in the area and they are serious. They went into this expansion programme in 1969 but there was nothing in there for a pollution control or abatement programme. I understand that the rumours are that in 1974 they are supposed to have a programme in effect. I rather doubt it. I doubt it very much.

The other point I want to raise with the minister is the air management control methods of sampling air within the area shed of the International Nickel Company refinery at Port Colborne. The prevailing winds from the southwest will carry it into the Humberstone township marsh and out east into the city.

You have what they call smudge pots there to collect the air particles. Could you give me some information about that? What is its purpose and what have you accomplished by it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Dealing first of all with your remarks regarding Union Carbide in Welland; as the hon. member probably knows this plant was served with a ministerial order last year and it stipulated that the ferro-alloy furnaces—there are three of them—

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, there must be more than that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sorry, no, I will give you the numbers—furnaces 34, 35 and 36 are to be controlled by November, 1972; furnaces 27, 28, 32 and 33 are to be controlled by December 1, 1974. So I would presume that there are at least six or seven of them.

Mr. Haggerty: About that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All electric coal—

Mr. Haggerty: Coke, that is right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —calcining furnaces are required to be controlled by July 1, 1974. In addition to the effluent from the five baking kiln stacks, hydrocarbons are required to be controlled by August 1, 1972.

Besides this control programme, the maintenance and operating practices of the existing control equipment are being reviewed by the air management branch.

Mr. Haggerty: Have any progress reports been made? Have they got any plans on the drawing board, ready to implement any of these stages that you have suggested?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I will ask somebody from the branch to comment on that. When a company is under a ministerial order there are inspections as to whether or not they are complying with stages of that order. There has to be. If we have a ministerial order such as this one—

Mr. Haggerty: Boy, your staff men must be blind.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No. For example, I mentioned that there were three furnaces that had to be controlled by November 7, 1972. Certainly we would inspect to see if they were doing the things they had to do to comply with that date.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you want to make any comments about Union Carbide in Welland?

Mr. C. J. Macfarlane (Air Management Branch): Mr. Chairman, by all appearances the company is on time, and by all we can see they will meet the date scheduled in the minister's order.

Mr. Haggerty: Now about the matter of the International Nickel Company—I asked you about these smudge pots that you have placed throughout about a six-mile radius lying southeast of the plant at Port Colborne. What is the purpose of these? What are you going to gain by these collection stations?

Mr. W. B. Drowley (Air Management Branch): Mr. Chairman, I am sorry. I do not understand the question, the terminology of smudge pots.

Mr. Haggerty: I do not know exactly what you call them. They are to collect the air contaminants within that air shed. They have been in force, as I say, perhaps some 10 or 12 years. What is the purpose of them and what have you accomplished? Are they just an ornament set up there to tell people you are making surveillance in the area, that you are trying to control it? This is the impression one gets.

Mr. Drowley: I will have to look into that for you, sir.

Mr. Haggerty: You will have to look into it for me?

Mr. Drowley: I am afraid I do not follow your question or the terminology you are using.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, let us put it this way. Of all the air contaminants that come out of these plants in my particular area, are they organic, highly toxic? What research have you done? This is the point that I am trying to raise. You must have these collection centres there for a purpose? Are they highly toxic?

Mr. Drowley: Dustfall, which I imagine you are referring to—but I do not think there is any of our equipment there.

Mr. Haggerty: It could be dustfall; it could be anything. It could be any agent.

Mr. Drowley: No, but I do not think there is anything coming off it. It is a collection device you are talking about.

Mr. Haggerty: This is right.

Mr. Drowley: Dust falls are collected and analysed for the content which is in them; we do periodic analyses on the constituents within them and they are mostly metallic constituents.

Mr. Haggerty: There are no carcinogenic agents involved?

Mr. Drowley: Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Haggerty: I may not have pronounced it right.

Mr. Drowley: Carcinogenic materials are normally a product of combustion.

Mr. Haggerty: That is right—coke. And in smelting you get combustion, right?

Mr. Drowley: Normally, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, this is the point I wanted established. So apparently I can arrive at the point to say you have done no research at all in this particular area?

Mr. Drowley: We have not investigated carcinogenic materials in that area.

Mr. Haggerty: And yet I can pinpoint a number of cancer cases in that particular area, which is higher than any place in the province.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is not tobacco country is it?

Mr. Haggerty: No, this is not tobacco country. The emphysema rate is higher in the area than perhaps in any other area in the province, and yet I find that you have done no research. In other words, the province has done little research dealing with the new industrial systems where chemicals develop as a result of technological change?

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Are you discussing an area that was planned or any area at all?

Mr. Haggerty: I am talking about the whole air shed in this particular area; I mean these two plants. Do you make a check on chronic colds in the area?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you talking about this from the point of view of health or from the point of view of—

Mr. Haggerty: Health. This is right. Do not shrug me off and tell me it comes under The Department of Health, because they have not done anything either.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We would not do that.

Mr. Haggerty: I am glad to hear the minister mention that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In relation to the effect on human beings, that would be some other department. We would make a survey on the plant, its emissions and the effect on the atmosphere generally of the individual plants, as we have indicated in our answers to you.

Mr. Haggerty: I imagine these are tests made in your laboratory. You have increased it by about 50 per cent from last year, I believe, from \$334,000 to \$537,000 or something like that, in round figures?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Lab tests? Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you carry on any research in this line?

Mr. J. C. Thatcher (Deputy Minister): Mr. Chairman, it may help Mr. Haggerty if I say that our normal programme is to monitor particulate matter, to analyse it to find out what it is composed of, and to work with The Department of Health on those things that The Department of Health considers to be dangerous, either carcinogenic or dangerous from other aspects. When we pick up substances that we have been alerted to by The Department of Health we will call them in.

We have a medical consultant assigned to us to work full-time with our air pollution people and this is his chief area of concern. So we are measuring these airborne contaminants and we are analysing for the ones that are dangerous, and we are alerting the health authorities when we find tangible amounts of these substances.

Mr. Haggerty: Then you are telling me that you feel that you have ample research on the provincial programme to discuss this expanded research?

Mr. Thatcher: I think we have sufficient to operate the programme satisfactorily, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: And that concerns largely the known effects of dust and chemicals?

Mr. Thatcher: The health research part, though, is done by The Department of Health, not our department.

Mr. Haggerty: I do not want to repeat myself, but here is an article dated June 26, 1969, which says The Department of Health does not undertake to test new chemicals for carcinogenics. Through the health study service of the environmental health branch it does not conduct studies of mortality in specific occupational groups and, of course, this could be broadened to take in the complete contaminated air shed from industry.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What you are saying, in other words, is that Health does not carry out studies.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, I do not think—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In other words, you say you have X number of deaths from cancer—

Mr. Haggerty: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —and that Health does not carry out a specific survey to see if there is some cause in that particular area because they are—

Mr. Haggerty: How do you know that your programme is working if you do not apply some procedural method?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know if that is really related. You know, this business of saying that things must be worse in some part of the province because of the mortality statistics or something like that—I wonder just how much they are related.

Mr. Haggerty: This study completed in the city of Buffalo, I believe it was a few years ago, in 1967, bore this out, that in a contaminated air shed where there is heavy industrial air—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is a tuberculosis—

Mr. Haggerty: —it proved that the death rate is—I forget what the percentage is—but it is much higher than living in a green belt.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No question about that.

Mr. Haggerty: Then there must be a cause.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sure there is a higher death rate in an industrial city than in the country, on a farm, away from the urban buildup. I am sure there is. There would be less emphysema; there would be less respiratory diseases. I am sure that is so.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, then, you have almost agreed with what I have been trying to get through to you. But the point is: Is there enough money being spent on research to get at the root of the problem? Why should these people be suffering?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no question but that if you want a sort of pristine environment, you have to close down plants and industry. You do not have concentrations of industry such as we have in Hamilton or Windsor or Sudbury. There just happen to be certain areas where there is a concentration of industry. I do not know if we need a survey to tell us that there are people in those areas that are probably affected by this industrial buildup. What we do is deal with the industry. We have standards. We have criteria based on health that we interpret and enforce by having industry meet our regulations.

I am not too concerned about the survey part of it. I am concerned about getting those

industries to meet our criteria, to install the equipment so they are not causing the problems they are causing now.

I understand that Health is conducting work to relate disease with air pollution in a number of Ontario communities. This is done for morbidity and mortality records.

Mr. Haggerty: Where did they do this? Up in Moosonee?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well he says, "a number of communities." I would think that he would—

Mr. Haggerty: Have you any that you can pinpoint?

Mr. Dowley: I am not sure which one he is on, but I can find where he is conducting those surveys, if you want.

An hon. member: Fort Erie.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It cannot be Fort Erie. They would not take a survey in Fort Erie, would they?

Mr. Haggerty: If you put up a shield along the Niagara River and stop it from coming across, it might solve some of the problems.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The research is, as the hon. member knows, world wide. I am sure that before we can set a standard—our air pollution index is a good example of that where we have a formula; we use the figures of 32, 50, 150 and they are all based on the relation to human health—I suppose research should continue, certainly, but I am just saying that our emphasis in this branch is not particularly on that aspect of—

Mr. Haggerty: To get back to one of the arguments, you can go back to Erco and the study that was completed there a few years ago. In their research, samplings were taken to find out where the fluoride concentration was highest within the area around the plant. There was nothing to stop somebody from going out and catching fieldmice and running tests on them, or on birds in the area, to find out what amount of fluoride was in these particular animals or birds.

Do you go out in certain areas where it is highly industrialized and pick up fieldmice and birds and run tests on them to find out just what effect it has on such animals? I mean some simple thing like that?

Mr. Thatcher: No.

Mr. Haggerty: There is nothing being done?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: With the reorganization of the department we are hoping to get the biggest part of the environmental health branch of The Department of Health. This is the type of responsibility that we can then take over and relate to our other programmes.

Mr. Haggerty: I hope that you can do this, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside.

Mr. Burr: I want to return to the role of chimneys in air pollution, a subject I have discussed with the minister by letter and in the House. In Hansard of October 15, 1970, pages 5084 to 5087, I went into great detail about my reasons for advocating the regular cleaning of chimneys in Ontario, both residential and commercial, not only as a means of preventing fires and deaths by asphyxiation, but also as a means of reducing air pollution. I am not going to repeat those details.

On the following day, October 16, my colleague the hon. member for Middlesex South (Mr. Bolton) related a personal experience in support of my contention that if Montreal and Vancouver see fit to have annual cleanings of all chimneys there must be some merit in this procedure.

Since then, Mr. Chairman, I have done some statistical research which confirms my argument on the fire prevention aspect. Montreal's population is almost twice that of Toronto—1,222,000 compared with 664,000, according to the 1966 census. The number of firemen is almost double—2,651 in Montreal, compared with 1,333 in Toronto.

Nevertheless, in 1970, although the number of Toronto fires classified under the heading "chimneys and flues" was 70, the figure from Montreal was not around 140, as one might expect, but was only 28. The Montreal figures covered not only chimneys and flues, which was the Toronto classification, but also cupolas and stacks. Montreal's annual systematic block-by-block cleaning of chimneys apparently pays off.

Yet in Ontario, we still frequently find such headlines as this one: "Safety Checks Urged for All Fireplaces and Furnaces." Another heading: "Family of Six Found Unconscious from Fumes." That news story goes on to say that the fumes came from a newly installed natural gas furnace. The chimney was blocked by old carbon deposits.

Inspector John Cobb said that the furnace had burned very little because the

night had been mild. He said, "If it had burned any length of time during the night, they likely would have suffocated."

The news item continues—

Firemen urge frequent cleaning of chimneys in houses converted to gas after years of coal heating.

Regular annual cleanings of chimneys would reduce air pollution, would reduce the number of fires and would save lives. The minister has it in his power to do all these things.

Regular annual cleaning of chimneys could also bring to the attention of building inspectors defective construction such as that described in a news item under the heading, "Hundreds of Illegal Chimneys Still Used, Inquest into Death of Four Girls Told."

The minister has a responsibility which he should not evade. He has an opportunity to correct a serious flaw in the regulations and legislation governing chimneys in Ontario. The explosion in the St. Daniel's School in Ottawa back in February, according to the fire marshal resulted from a buildup of soot. The question is, how long ago had that furnace or that heating system been cleaned?

This brings me to what might appear to be a slight digression but is not. I want to talk about the gross national product for a moment. I mentioned this the other day, but can the gross national product be increased without increasing pollution?

As many members realize, modern society has a very difficult problem to solve: namely, how to increase, or at least maintain, our standard of living without increasing pollution. That is our dilemma; that is our problem for the next 20 or 30 years.

Almost every new enterprise requires additional amounts of power, usually electric, and every additional electric power plant increases the total air pollution, unless it is hydro-electric, geothermal, tidal or solar. Because the GNP consists of goods and services, one way of increasing our wealth without increasing our pollution is to increase the personal services performed by human beings on behalf of other human beings.

Montreal has a corps of chimney sweeps. They are not on the municipal payroll but they work under a city permit. They work in districts determined by the director of the fire department and they must sweep annually every chimney in their assigned districts. They operate under a municipal bylaw.

My point is that Montreal has this group of chimney sweeps who are adding to the

safety and the health of the people of Montreal. Or, to put it another way, they are adding to the GNP of Canada.

The only way to increase the GNP without adding more pollution is to increase the quantity and variety of services. Chimney sweeping is not a glamorous occupation but it is a definite service which occasionally prevents a fire, or other accident capable of causing death. Ontario could add to its citizens' total safety, total health and the gross provincial product.

I would like to urge the minister, once again, to consult the fire chief in Montreal and the local fire chief, to consider the amount of soot that could be carted away and buried instead of being emitted into the atmosphere and the lungs of citizens and their children. In short, I urge him to establish periodic cleaning of chimneys in Ontario and thereby add to our total wealth and do a valuable service.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I just want to say, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the importance of chimney sweeps—as a matter of fact I saw “Mary Poppins” twice—but I think the hon. member will agree that this is a question of safety and fire prevention, really, more than air pollution.

Mr. Burr: You talked about Hiroshima this morning when you flew back to Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I know. But you see, for example, if you clean out a chimney, particularly the individual residential or small commercial chimney, that means the soot or the emissions do not accumulate in that chimney. Therefore, there is less likelihood of fire but still, if you clean out the chimney, the soot is going up there.

Our concern is to minimize the type of emissions, the amount of black smoke that is going out of these chimneys. Therefore, we have to be concerned with the plant itself to make sure, wherever possible, they are using oil or gas possibly, rather than coal—which is being done really as time goes by, anyway—and make sure that with the proper operating furnace or plant the actual emission, what goes up the chimney, is not causing the problem in the atmosphere that coal has in the past.

There is no question that by increasing the service, like the occasional chimney sweep, this helps to increase the GNP without adding to pollution. There is no question that there should be—I agree with what is going on in Montreal—regular inspections of

chimneys. Possibly there should be a requirement that they should be cleaned out regularly but that is, I think, basically a matter of fire prevention and safety rather than a great emphasis on air pollution.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Yorkview.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, following up on that angle, what amount of soft coal is still being burned in our cities and in Ontario? I see, particularly from older, smaller buildings, quite a lot of black smoke coming out and it looks as if soft coal is still being used fairly extensively even in Metropolitan Toronto. I am wondering if we have any statistics as to the quality of the coal that is being used.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I know that Ontario Hydro, for example, uses about 12 million tons a year in its coal-fired generating stations. A lot of it is soft coal. I do not know if we have an overall figure for the province.

Mr. Thatcher: In terms of small users, small-to-regular users, there is not more than about 300,000 tons being used annually.

Mr. Young: In Ontario?

Mr. Thatcher: In Ontario. The substantial use of coal is in electricity generation.

Mr. Young: But the sulphur content is still fairly high?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, it is mixed. As far as Hydro is concerned, they have to have a certain quantity of low-sulphur-content fuel—coal—to mix. It is more expensive and, as the hon. member knows, it is harder to get, but there is still quite a bit of higher-content SO₂ coal.

Mr. Young: In connection with pollution coming from private homes and from apartment buildings, has there been any real advance in the construction of oil burners? Here is where we get a lot of the pollution coming into our cities. Every house has some sort of heating unit, and in the winter time a lot of oil is being consumed there.

These oil burners have not been too efficient. I suppose the oil industry is not too interested in making them efficient because the less efficient they are the more oil is sold. While I have talked to some of the oil people who claim that they have people researching all the time for more efficiency, I have no hard evidence that there has been much research really applied to oil burners.

I wonder if the minister has any information as to what is being done here? I think likely the only incentive to the companies to really do the research and develop more efficient burners is standards of emission from oil furnaces.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is some research going on in respect to oil burners, Mr. Chairman. For example, the national combustion laboratory in Ottawa, which is an independent government agency, is continuously researching oil burners and the efficiency of oil burners, both as to the consumption of oil and from the point of view of air pollution. If improvements can be made in the standards relating to these burners as far as the effects of their operation, we will bring in regulations to meet those standards. The industry, of course, would have to follow along, would have to follow suit.

Mr. Young: Does the work going on in the nation's capital then, have any real—perhaps I will put it this way: Have they announced any results of the research? Could I, if I need a new oil furnace in my home, for example, write to them and find out if this type of oil burner is more efficient than this one?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would think they would give you that information, sure.

Mr. Young: But it is not a general—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know if they will get into the business of telling you that a particular make of oil burner is better than another make, you know. They will not start acting like a Consumer's Report. But I am sure they would give you the statistics or the result of their research. It is quite possible, I would think, that as far as what is on the market is concerned there would probably be very little difference between one oil burner and another, assuming the same class and price range and this type of thing.

Mr. Young: The British people in their research have made some breakthrough on the larger oil furnaces, but I have not heard of any in the smaller ones, the ones for the home. Temperatures, I suppose, have to be up pretty high and that may be one of the big problems.

There is another field that also is pretty obvious as one drives throughout a city like Metropolitan Toronto, and that is the garbage disposal unit, the apartment incinerator. Here again, there are all kinds of suggestions being made of freezing the garbage, compacting it

and putting it out, a different type of disposal. As far as the older buildings are concerned and many of the new ones, too, the incinerators are still pretty inefficient. Again, I am not sure that there has been any great amount of research. The last word I heard was that likely no advance had been made since the triple burner about 15 years ago and that the garbage burners are extremely inefficient and a lot of work needs to be done there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean in the Metro incinerator?

Mr. Young: But as my friend from Humber (Mr. Ben) points out, in new apartments in some municipalities the incinerators are not allowed. The garbage has to be disposed of in some other way, but this is not generally true across the province; at least I do not think so.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think it involves Metro Toronto.

Mr. Young: Yes, but this is not a province-wide regulation. Should it be?

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Just so that I will not be guilty of taking anything away from what he says, which I am not intending to, they are not allowing the installation of incinerators in new buildings. But there are still a heck of a lot in old buildings, and I am not sure whether they prohibited the use of the existing ones.

Mr. Young: They are not being—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is a municipal bylaw.

Mr. Ben: Yes, that is right. Perhaps the minister should give consideration to making it a provincial bylaw; not only have a provincial bylaw to prohibit the installation of new apartment building incinerators, but to prohibit the operation of the existing ones.

Mr. Young: Like New York City and some other cities have completely prohibited the burning of garbage through incineration, in apartments, and have made provisions for special incinerators to burn this waste. There is no question that a lot of our emissions into the air here are from this kind of combustion but I understand that no research has been done; no long look has been taken by provincial authorities into this aspect of air pollution.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I will say that, as the hon. member knows, one of the problems, for example, in this area has been the quality

of the municipal incinerators. We have not insisted that apartment blocks stop burning their garbage which in turn would mean substantial hauls to municipal incinerators or some central incinerator.

In view of the problems, at least at this point, at those facilities I would think that apartment-block incinerators may well be the proper answer—assuming that they are efficient, that they are the latest method of disposing of certain types of garbage that accumulates in an area. I would not say normal garbage, necessarily, but I am thinking of types of paper and things like this which may not cause as much problem. I would think that the disposing of garbage of all kinds in an apartment block would require a very proper up-to-date and rather expensive type of incineration.

Mr. Young: It is not likely then that you could ever get an apartment incinerator as efficient as the new one, for example, going into Etobicoke—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, it is quite possible—

Mr. Young:—so that in the long run, planning for proper incineration would involve enough of the efficient ones on a large scale to take care of all apartment waste as well? This should be envisaged as we plan for the development of incineration.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right!

Mr. Young: There is just one other question I want to ask the minister. I notice the testing machine is out in front. It was there last night when I left and in any case I presume it is there today. What experience has arisen out of the tests of the motor cars in the emission tests? Have we this figure yet? How long are the present devices in automobiles—that is the built-in devices—how long are they efficient? How many miles? I had my car tested at the same time as the minister did, I think, last year. If the machine is here today I will get it tested again, but how many miles is this good for, providing the PC valve is changed properly?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are good for the life of the car as long as there is regular inspection, as you would with normal equipment on an automobile. If it is checked with the other parts of an engine, an automobile, there is no reason why these systems—particularly since the 1970 model—cannot be controlling emissions as long as you drive that automobile.

Mr. Young: I was disappointed in my last test because it was the first test, of course, that the car had had. It had not run more than 10,000 miles at that time, and it showed very bad results. I took it in to the garage and got \$65 worth of repairs done—spark plugs, all kinds of things that were necessary—and had it retested, and at that time it showed perfect functioning. This will last for the lifetime of the car, you feel, as long as plugs are replaced at regular intervals and other work of this kind is kept up to date?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is part—it will be part, of course—of our certificate of ownership or on transfer ownership of a vehicle when we require a safety check—

Mr. Young: But not an emissions test?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is going to be part of it. We are working with Highways on that.

Mr. Young: Is this involved in the recent legislation that has just been introduced in the House?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, yes—

Mr. Young: We had the bill yesterday, I think it was. There was a bill introduced—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean a highways bill?

Mr. Young:—in connection with the transfer of motor cars. The minister did not designate what it was all about.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will have to check that. I think we will probably bring it in in our legislation.

Mr. Young: I see. Then one other question. Mr. Minister, you have been testing some mufflers over the past year, mufflers that are affixed to the car in opposition to the built-in devices for pollution control. I wonder if we have any results of those tests up to the present time?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are these the catalytic mufflers?

Mr. Young: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am advised that there is no consistency in any of the results that we have so far. We are still following up the surveys or the tests that are coming in on particular types of mufflers. I suppose I have representatives of a company or an organization visiting my office every week who have the latest type of catalytic muffler with the least amount of toxic emissions and the best

type of emission control. The only thing we can do is to test these mufflers under all circumstances.

One of the problems with some of these mufflers as they have come in is they may be good for a while, but with more than, shall we say, the installed emission control that is required at the manufacturing level. We have to be concerned that after 5,000 or 10,000 or 15,000 miles of use that muffler is still as effective, from the point of view of emissions, as when it was new. I understand this requires a certain amount of servicing. One company will say, well, theirs requires less than a competitor's, so these are the findings that we are getting.

We are not in a position, really, to recommend any particular type of muffler so that we could say really we should have regulations that require, say, pre-1969 models to install a particular type of muffler. Only when we are satisfied that that muffler will be on the market at a price that indicates its value to the automobile, would we be able to take come sort of a stand on it.

Mr. Young: At the present time, is it the time factor or the quality of emissions or both?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Under certain circumstances, particularly with some of the truck mufflers that have been promoted, they are fine at first. There is always that problem, of course, of performance. There are always, I am afraid, mechanics at certain garages who, when a person comes in with a car or truck and says, "I am not getting the power out of this vehicle I should be getting, it is lousy" or this and that and the other thing—some of these fellows, I do not know whether it is by way of instruction or otherwise, the first question they ask is: "Have you got any kind of emission control on that thing? If you have, disconnect it." This is what is going on and I think we are going to have to step up our inspection of vehicles and probably have heavy penalties for intentionally disconnecting emission control devices.

But I am hoping that sometime this year, in view of the amount of research that is going on in respect of catalytic mufflers and attachments, that we will be in a position at least to approve a muffler from the point of view of saying to the public, "Yes, that device is worth the \$30 or \$35 it may cost you. It will help reduce the emissions from your vehicle," and consider the idea of regulations.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Humber.

Mr. Ben: Yes, on these emission control devices. Do I take it that all automobiles operated by your department now have emission control devices installed on them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I understand that all our vehicles—I will not say all, there may be three or four—but all our vehicles are 1969 or later models. So they have the normal standard emission control devices installed in them.

But also, as I indicated last night, we have some vehicles in which we are using propane gas. Those are vehicles that are just used in the Metropolitan Toronto area, where they are not going outside the city. They are, along with Public Works, sort of on a pilot project as far as using this type of fuel is concerned.

Mr. Ben: Have you any idea how many automobiles owned and operated by the government are pre-1969 models?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I really do not know, but I imagine there are very few. We are always being criticized, as you know, for having the latest models.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, we are talking about using soft coal, and you say that they are using soft coal for electricity generation. Are you serious? You would permit the use of soft coal for the generating of electricity in this province?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know if you want to use the words "soft coal," or if you want to use the word "bituminous coal." All I am saying is that, in view of Hydro's needs of around 12 million tons per year, we are not able to get an adequate supply of low sulphur content coal to satisfy Hydro's needs, so we have to get coal with a higher content of SO₂.

Mr. Ben: Yes, but there is a difference between soft coal and bituminous coal, and hard coal—anthracite. You may not be able to obtain low sulphur content anthracite coal, but is that any reason why you should permit the burning of bituminous coal? That gives off more smoke than the pipe you just lit.

Mr. Chairman: Is that a question?

Mr. Ben: Yes.

Mr. Thatcher: The amount of sulphur in the coal is not related really to whether it is hard coal or soft coal. You can get high sulphur hard coals and low sulphur hard coals and the same with bituminous coals. The fact is that in central and north America the main supply of coal is bituminous coal. We can go to Nova Scotia or the Alberta and B.C. areas for harder coals, but the cost of transportation would be prohibitive.

Mr. Ben: Does not the federal government pay a subsidy on Nova Scotia coal?

Mr. Thatcher: It still costs more.

Mr. Ben: It still costs more. Well, what is their subvention these days?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is the federal government.

Mr. Ben: I beg your pardon?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The subsidy is by the federal government.

Mr. Ben: Yes, it is by the federal government, but what is the present subvention on account of Nova Scotia coal?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Still not enough to make it competitive with what you can get in the States.

Mr. Ben: It is not, eh?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Those fellows down there are making good money—

Mr. Ben: I will accept—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —working for the government.

Mr. Ben: —the statement made—although I will not pass on its general accuracy—that you can have hard coal with a higher sulphur content than soft coal. But is it not a fact that it is the soft coal that gives out the billows of black smoke?

Mr. Thatcher: No, not necessarily, Mr. Ben. Either the hard or the soft coal, if it is burnt properly, will convert the carbon into carbon dioxide basically. If the combustion is incomplete there will be some carbon monoxide. In any event, the sulphur will be converted into sulphur dioxide.

So the amount of sulphur you get will depend on the amount of sulphur in the original coal, not whether it is hard or soft. The other factor that you get from coal is basically particulate matter which is related to the amount of ash in the original coal.

These can be measured by samples and, again, the ash varies from location to location, as does the sulphur content.

Mr. Ben: Surely we have been led to believe through our complete school life that hard coal burns cleaner, it leaves less ash, it gives off less soot. Now you people are telling us that these teachers have been giving us a bill of goods—that there has not been any quality to education in Ontario.

Mr. Thatcher: No, no, Mr. Ben, if I might—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What course is that?

Mr. Ben: Physics, right through school.

Mr. Thatcher: The main difference, if I may, between soft and hard coal, is that the soft, or bituminous, coal contains more hydrocarbon material and if you burn it in a grate or something like that, it will give off more smoke if burnt in the open atmosphere. But if it is burnt in a proper furnace, where there is complete combustion, not only of the carbon, but also of the hydrocarbon compounds within the coal, it should not provide you with any greater problem. The hard coal, being basically carbon, burns more like a coke, with a clean flame and with very little in the way of gas going up your open chimney. But in a furnace, there is no reason that it should cause any more problem.

Mr. Ben: In one of the magazines of February, 1968, put out by Ontario Hydro there was an article on air pollution, captioned, *The Air Around Us—Pollution Is a Breathing Man's Business*. It pointed out that the Federation of Ontario Naturalists estimated last year—I imagine that would be 1967—that pollution of air, water and soil costs each person living in Ontario \$72 a year: about \$500 million in all.

Now we are talking about coal, and the price of coal, the difference between American coal and the price of coal purchased either in eastern or western Canada. Would the difference in the purchase of 12 million tons of coal—by the way, I know that some of it is purchased in Nova Scotia—be that great in relation to the \$500 million a year that it costs us for pollution? Or has there been any consideration given, for example, to this government subsidizing the construction of a pipeline to twin the trans-Canada pipeline to bring natural gas eastward to Ontario, for domestic and industrial heating purposes and for electricity-generating purposes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean to have Ontario build a pipeline?

Mr. Ben: Ontario. I say Ontario subsidize or, if necessary, Ontario go into the business itself. I think we would be able to swallow that. I do not think the Tory party would be able to swallow that. But to subsidize or encourage the—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Nobody can swallow that.

Mr. Henderson: Fifty-five of the Liberals have swallowed it.

Mr. Ben: Are not the people of Ontario grateful that the Liberal government in Ottawa pursued that pipeline so that we can get all that natural gas here? My goodness! You would still be operating on candles in Ontario if it was not for the Liberals in Ottawa.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 504. Carried?

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): We soon will be if they stay there much longer.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, has the government given any consideration to subsidizing the construction of a pipeline?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No.

Mr. Ben: Well, why have you not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do not think it is necessary. There will be, particularly with the plans of Trans-Canada now to build another pipeline, sufficient gas in Ontario, in the Ontario market, to make the necessary conversions.

Mr. Ben: By when?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That pipeline was supposed to be under way this year. How long it takes I do not know. But certainly it will be just as quick that way than if we get into the business. The fact is that Consumers' Gas and the other gas companies in this province and those responsible for the transmission of gas from the west to this province have indicated to us that if we want to make major conversions, particularly of our hydro plants, that the supply will be available.

As the hon. member knows, this is a more expensive fuel than certain other fuels, but it is certainly less of a polluter. So we may be carrying out, as we are doing at Hearn, a regular programme of conversion, particularly for the coal-fired plants.

Mr. Ben: If the completion of a second trans-Canada pipeline is imminent in the affairs of mankind—and I use that phrase because imminent may mean two or three years hence—why are you continuing to construct fossil fuel facilities at that Dover plant? Why do you not start constructing them as gas-burning facilities now rather than have to convert it some time later?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think I am very safe to say that the Nanticoke plant, which started at least two years ago—I think it is more likely three—certainly the planning started even longer ago than that—I think it is quite safe to say that that will be the last coal-fired generating station built in this province.

Mr. Ben: We are happy to hear that. We fought tooth and nail against that one. It is a pity that we did not succeed.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because of its location, coal had certain advantages, not necessarily from the point of view of air quality.

Mr. Ben: To the best of my knowledge, there is only one industrial firm that has its garbage or waste burnt by municipal incinerator. At least at the time that I was on council, there was Lever Brothers and, I think, at that time Frederick G. Gardiner was one of their directors. I think Bulk Systems used to dispose of their garbage and take it down to the Commissioner Street incinerator but, to the best of my knowledge and belief today, aside from that perhaps one isolated incident, all industrial waste is buried. In other words, I do not know of any garbage disposal outfit that is operating an incinerator. They are using sanitary landfill sites. They are doing that, Mr. Minister, because it is considerably cheaper and it is non-polluting. It costs approximately \$7 to burn a ton of garbage and I think it only costs about \$2 or \$3 to bury a ton.

Now, why is it that it is in a private sector that the garbage is being disposed of in a less-polluting fashion than in a public sector? Why do you not compel the municipalities to dispose of their garbage in the same way as the private sector is disposing of it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In other words, you are recommending sanitary landfill disposal over incineration, are you?

Mr. Ben: Precisely.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, there is an argument there. If you listened to the debate yesterday, the member for York Centre (Mr. Deacon),

your colleague, felt that incineration was the answer, while Mr. Lawlor felt that sanitary landfill disposal was the answer—because of course they both have particular problems in their ridings which are a little different.

Mr. Ben: I recognize both the problems.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, for example, our recommendation of waste management—we are getting back to vote 503, Mr. Chairman, but that is all right, I guess.

Mr. Ben: No, no, it is not—I will tell you what. We are a little more lenient than you are and we will permit you to digress slightly if you keep it within bounds.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, “Mr. Speaker.”

The recommendation of the department is that in your large urban centres, where you have areas zoned industrially, with the latest methods that are available for incineration, this type of disposal be used because of the problem of finding suitable landfill sites, which for all intents and purposes will have to be outside the boundaries of the urban centre and then you involve another municipality that says, “We do not want Toronto’s garbage,” and so on. This is what is going on.

You have local objection for various reasons to sanitary landfill sites. So in areas that are zoned industrially or for heavy industry, with our modern methods of incineration and all that entails—such as the generating of steam as a fuel and things like this—we can see the use of both methods in a parallel way. And really, the advantages or disadvantages of one or the other across the board do not encourage us to recommend one over the other, if you know what I mean, except as they relate to particular areas.

Mr. Ben: Yes, in fairness to the member for York Centre, I think you should point out that he advocates incineration as a source of also generating electricity. I will tell you, Mr. Minister, you are not a bad type of a fellow and I am going to give you some solutions to how you can solve some of these problems.

If you want to build these incinerators, buy yourself an area where you have got 200 or 300 acres and put up an incinerator and generate steam, and on the surrounding territory put up greenhouses and you can use the steam to heat the greenhouses and the soil for the greenhouses and the fertilizer you can get from the sewage disposal plants. Everything is going to be coming to you from

waste and then we will be able to get hot-house tomatoes that will be the equivalent of the Sun Parlour tomatoes year round at cost.

Mr. Chairman: Carried?

Mr. Ben: Just a second. I am not through yet, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: You are not through? I thought it was carried.

Mr. Ben: Oh no. You are trying hard anyway.

Mr. Chairman: Well look, this thing was 504 then, please.

Mr. Ben: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you running out of clients downtown?

Mr. Carruthers: I can just see the plants growing in those greenhouses.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Everthing will be coming up roses.

An hon. member: No smell.

Mr. Ben: No. Just tomatoes.

Mr. Carruthers: If you will excuse the term, those plants could use the carbon dioxide generated by those hydro plants. You should put those hydro plants there too.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, I asked you to produce some figures the last time I was here and I am sure you have them. How many prosecutions have there been in the city of Toronto for breach of the standards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I believe there were 17 or 18. There have been about 18 convictions, province-wide. I do not know if you want that broken down in Toronto.

Mr. Ben: Is that all?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Ben: When I was on the works committee at Metro, we were reviewing monthly the prosecutions and convictions for breaches of the pollution bylaw; we were getting that many a month.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Were you? It did not do much good, or maybe it did a lot of good.

Mr. Ben: Mind you, we used to regret that we were only fining Eaton’s \$25 or \$50 for the second, third or subsequent offence.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh, these are \$1,000, \$3,000, \$5,000 fines. This is big stuff! This is the province.

Mr. Ben: Good grief! We thought they were going to take over.

Mr. Carruthers: You were just a small operator.

Mr. Ben: We were small operators. We took in that much money in a month. We may have taken it from more people but, by Jove, at least we were prosecuting.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do not want to be persecutors.

Mr. Ben: We were not persecuting. We never persecuted anybody. We never prosecuted until after we had given them two or three warnings.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We do not go that far. But, as you know, Mr. Chairman, we do have these ministerial orders and if we have a company under ministerial order and it is complying with that order, we do not necessarily sue although there is still emission that does not meet our standards and our regulations.

We have a cutoff date, and if the installation is not completed by that maturity date, then we will issue a violation notice and subsequently sue. Really, that type of approach achieves more than issuing a lot of summonses against various companies.

Mr. Ben: I cannot follow your reasoning.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, it makes sense. Let us face it: Because of the very nature of their plants and the very nature of their operations, these companies are polluting in the very broadest sense of the word; they are contributing to a deterioration of the quality of the atmosphere. But it is a matter of standards. You are not going to get the same situation here as you have at James Bay.

But if they are breaching our standards, either intentionally or otherwise by ignoring our instructions and our orders, then we are suing. If there are accidental or intentional breakdowns, if there are certain instances where they are breaching our regulations, even if they are under a ministerial order we can prosecute—and we have prosecuted.

There is a problem of followup and getting the necessary evidence based on complaints for a conviction. Somebody says, you know, that, "The ABC company is emitting terribly black smoke today. Why don't you come out and do something about it?" Our

inspector happens to go there but this emission is no longer taking place and the person who saw it is reluctant to be a witness. These are the problems we are encountering.

Mr. Ben: I will tell you, Mr. Minister, when you go after polluters in the city of Toronto, not only do you go after them with a kid glove but you keep your hand in your pocket. We used to prosecute more in a week for polluting the air than you people have done in a year in all of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, you have not achieved anything.

Mr. Ben: We were cleaning up. We were cutting down on pollution. What are you achieving?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, you have not achieved anything. That method just did not work; that is why we had to take it over.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 504 carry?

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the minister one thing on air pollution and that is about steel plants that have a fairly large inventory of steel which rusts before it is fabricated and then coated and so forth, so there is a dust problem. In the event of a complaint from a constituent concerning this type of pollution, would it be subject to regulations of this department?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It would depend on the cause of the corrosion.

Mr. B. Newman: The corrosion is from the atmospheric conditions in the area and then the handling of the steel. While it is on the ground there is no problem of steel rust dust, but as soon as it is lifted by a conveyor then it just goes through the neighbourhood.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In a situation like that we would lay a charge, sure.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, could I ask the department then to look into that problem with the Dominion Bridge Company on Walker Road. Constituents have complained a half-dozen times concerning the rust dust from the stored steel.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is another situation where we are going to have to look at the idea of some form of—

Mr. B. Newman: Enclosure.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —enclosure or covering for fuel and material in plant yards.

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is certainly something we are going to look at, not only from the point of view of coal and slag and everything else, but sand and so forth.

Mr. Carruthers: On highways.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Fly ash.

Vote 504 agreed to.

On vote 505:

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, just one question on OWRC today, just one short question.

Mr. Chairman: Are you not going to be here on Monday?

Mr. Martel: I do not think so. It is a very short one.

Mr. Minister, I spoke to some of your staff last week when we visited OWRC sites. For 2½ years my file on drinking water has been getting thicker. At the International Nickel Company I keep getting assurances that it is all A-1. Two weeks ago Friday I met with Dr. Mastromatteo, representatives of the two unions and the two companies. The men from Inco on that occasion brought in a sample of water for Dr. Mastromatteo that they had taken the night before, signed by eight witnesses. Their drinking water was black, right from the drinking fountains. When they let it run for a while it went over the edge and, when the water left, there was the silt and the dirt right on the floor.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Was the fountain in the plant?

Mr. Martel: Fountains. Not just one fountain—fountains.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There must have been a breakdown, or something.

Mr. Martel: No, it is drinking water. Mr. Minister, we have been complaining about it for 2½ years.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you know anything about that, Dennis?

Mr. D. Sharpe (Ontario Water Resources Commission): The member raised the question at the time of this committee's visit to our lab, and we indicated we would meet with Dr. Mastromatteo and look into it.

We are aware of this problem. The water delivered to the water distribution system inside Inco is satisfactory, but once it gets into their pipes, it is absolutely true that it comes out on occasion full of material that has flaked off the interior of the pipes. This is what we believe is the problem. We will be reporting back to you on this.

Mr. Martel: The only assurance I want is that Inco do as Falconbridge do, and that is bring in containers of drinkable water, at least. I just do not think the men can go on with this type of water.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, not if they are getting black water. They will have to either shut off those fountains or do something about it.

Mr. Martel: We have been after them for 2½ years.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, we will stand adjourned until the House goes into committee next Monday afternoon, at approximately 3.15 p.m.

Mr. Martel: Will we return to OWRC?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right.

The committee adjourned at 1.00 o'clock, p.m.

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Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

**Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management**

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, May 10, 1971

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh *Cass, Q.C.*

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 10, 1971

The committee met at 3:05 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1, Mr. Hamilton in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (continued)

Mr. Chairman: The estimates of the Ontario Water Resources Commission. We are going to deal with this under votes 505, 506 and 507 inclusively.

On votes 505, 506 and 507, inclusive:

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Chairman, I believe I made a brief comment when we closed the other night so that I could get in today.

I said to the minister before we started that I was going to be kinder to him today and start by complimenting him. I think that remark bears repeating. I think the OWRC is doing more in regard to water pollution than the minister was doing in regard to air pollution—

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Noise pollution!

Mr. T. P. Reid: Pardon me, noise pollution. He was not doing anything in regard to noise pollution.

I would like to deal with three or four topics, if I may, and start off with the situation that underlines something that is very significant in regard to water quality in the Province of Ontario. This is the situation that has developed in Ottawa in the last few ays.

I wonder if the minister can give us some indication of the various criteria used to assess water quality. The newspapers and media have been full of the controversy between OWRC and the local health unit in Ottawa on the closing of the beaches there.

Mr. Douglas of the health unit apparently is using one set of standards for the quality of the water in regard to public bathing in particular and OWRC is using another standard. I wonder if the minister could perhaps indicate to us what the difference is and what on-going negotiations are being carried on

between his department and OWRC as to what criteria should be used in judging the quality of water for its various uses—recreation, drinking water and so on.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is right. One of the problems in that area appears to be that the local medical officer of health has chosen to use standards or criteria which are different from the criteria of OWRC and The Department of Health. Of course—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Excuse me, you say his criteria are different from The Department of Health?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The Department of Health, yes. It is my understanding that, of course, each local medical officer of health is free to use or establish his own set of criteria in evaluating bathing waters. I am going to call on one of the gentlemen from the commission in a minute, but apparently our—has the hon. member seen this report?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Which one is that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is the report "Bacterial Pollution of Bathing Beaches."

Mr. T. P. Reid: No.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In that report, on page 6, it does set out the health unit recommendations or standards. I believe their criteria is 100 fecal coliforms per 1,000 milligrams. Is that right?

Mr. D. S. Caverly (General Manager, Ontario Water Resources Commission): Millilitres.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Millilitres, I am sorry.

Mr. Caverly: Actually, I think, to answer your question, if we could just leave this out and read it into the record. The health units recommended for waters designated for primary contact recreation, which means swimming, that not more than 10 per cent of the samples in a selective sampling programme exceed 100 fecal coliforms per 100 millilitres. The OWRC sets forth a bacterial criteria for total body contact recreation in the commission publication "Guidelines and Criteria for

Water Quality Management in Ontario." The microbiological criteria in part read as follows:

Water used for body contact recreation activity should be free from pathogens including any bacteria, fungi or viruses that may produce enteric, disorder or eye, ear, nose and throat and skin infections. Where ingestion is probable, recreational waters can be considered impaired when the coliform, fecal coliform, and/or enterococcus geometric mean density exceeds 1000, 100 and/or 20 per 100 millilitre respectively, in a series of at least 10 samples per month, including samples collected during week-end periods.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Thank you. In other words, OWRC's standard is 10 to 11 times higher than The Department of Health's according to that? The Department of Health is 100 per millilitre and OWRC is 1,100 per millilitre. Is that correct?

Mr. Caverly: He was just using 100 fecal coliforms per millilitre. We were using 100—our first was total coliform of thousands, but our fecal coliform was 100 and/or 20 per millilitre respectively. We were using fecal coliforms and enterococcus which is another type of bacteria found—

Mr. T. P. Reid: How many per millilitre is OWRC?

Mr. Caverly: It is 100, and the same with the health unit.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is the same as the health unit. Is this not really what we are talking about, the fecal coliform from the intestines of a warm-blooded animal? In other words, we are talking about human wastes here. Now, if they are both the same, the standards in this particular case are both the same, where does the argument come in?

Mr. Caverly: That is a good point. Do you want to take that, Mr. Sharpe, please?

Mr. K. H. Sharpe (Ontario Water Resources Commission): The main difference is the interpretation of the number of samples. The medical officer of health says any one of the 10 samples exceeding the 100 is cause for rejection, and we use a geometric means; which is roughly 50 per cent of the samples have to exceed.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I see. Is this pretty well standard across the province—these standards

on both sides, on The Department of Health side and OWRC?

Mr. Caverly: The standards we have set in our guidelines apply across the province. I think there is a variation. In other words the medical officer of health—and I am speaking a little out of my area here—as I understand it the medical officer of health can employ any standard he likes. There is no uniform standard across the province. The bathing beaches are strictly within his jurisdiction.

Mr. T. P. Reid: This is what gives the general public in particular some cause for concern, because they do not know who is right and who is wrong. Is there anything being done to give either department the final say-so, and who finally decides what should be done in these regards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think Health will probably argue that if the condition of the quality of the water in a public swimming area directly affects human health this is something that should remain under their department. Really, we cannot argue with that contention. The situation here, of course, was that after the local medical officer of health in Ottawa declared certain beaches unfit for swimming—I think that was last September—the board of control of the city of Ottawa asked OWRC to make this study, carry out this survey and this analysis, and it was as a result of that a report was compiled and printed and issued a matter of a few weeks ago. I understand the compilation of this report involved the provincial Department of Health as well as OWRC staff.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Was the report conducted by engineers or doctors? Because this seems to be one of the points that has been raised.

Mr. Caverly: Mr. Sharpe was involved in this more directly, I will ask him.

Mr. Sharpe: Our evaluation of the analytical results was done by bacteriologists, engineers, dealing with the cause of the contamination, the sewers, the septic tanks in the area and so on, so it was a composite of a number of people. But our main use of people for the interpretation of the bacteria counts were bacteriologists.

Mr. T. P. Reid: We come around full circle really, to the question I asked in the beginning. How is the general public to know what standard to accept, whether the medical officer of health or OWRC?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know that the general public should be concerned about standards, if the—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Who else should be concerned about the standards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What I am saying is, if the local medical officer of health decides, based on his criteria, that a certain beach should be closed, the beach is closed. However, if the beach remains open—and you can assume that these beaches are continuously surveyed by the local medical officer of health together with OWRC, involvement of OWRC from time to time in the general analysis of the quality of the water in that particular stream or lake—if it is open it is fit for swimming.

I think it would be very difficult for any average person to come to a conclusion based on the statistics you have just been given, where the local medical officer of health says “I am not satisfied that beach is fit for swimming,” and OWRC is saying, “Under our standards it is fit for swimming.” I would say that until that is resolved by the two government agencies, the average individual should stay away from that beach because legally it is closed anyway.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Then when is that going to be resolved? One says it is fit, the other says it is unfit, when is this going to be resolved? When are these standards going to be—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think there may be a bit of a personality clash here. This is something that has happened in a particular area. This has not happened before. OWRC has not been having too many conflicts with the local medical officer of health. As a matter of fact, it has just been the other way around. Sometimes we are a little bit ahead of the local medical officer.

We have a particular instance, where one local medical officer of health feels that his standards in respect to, I think there are six beaches involved, and—did he say all of them should be closed? And we say only two of the six should have been closed.

In all fairness I think it should be pointed out that in September when those beaches were closed, between the time the beaches were closed and the time this survey was conducted, OWRC were in both the Rideau and the Ottawa as a result of this information on the conditions of the beaches.

As a matter of fact even before the edict was given by the local medical officer of health, taking certain corrective measures, requiring individuals to take certain corrective measures that involved septic systems, it involved the problem of some storm sewers, outfalls, and I think we had a certain amount of chlorination done in some of the creeks, the Nepean Creek, for example.

So some efforts were made and corrective measures taken, which may have accounted for the improvement that was indicated in the OWRC report subsequent to Dr. Douglas taking the steps he did.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The fact remains that apparently across the province the medical officers of health have one set of criteria and OWRC has another. This is now the substance of a negotiation between the two departments to resolve this?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think I might take issue with your statement. The local medical officers of health across the province do not necessarily disagree with us. As we have indicated, there is a certain amount of leeway taken by each doctor. Each doctor, each local medical officer of health, has to some degree his own personal idea as to our criteria, and he like most doctors may be extra cautious, and then applies this in his particular area.

We are the only agency that I know of along with health that has a uniform set of standards or has standards for all over the province. I do not think we are going to apply those standards or draft those standards to each different area to suit a local MOH. If he does not agree with us there is not much we can do under the present circumstances.

We have our standards and if there is a local medical officer of health who says under the circumstances, there may be some particular local circumstances, we do not feel they are strict enough. It may be because of the size of that beach or the heat of the water or the location of that beach in comparison to an outfall or a plant or something like that. It may be impossible to apply the same criteria. Is that correct?

It may be impossible, when one minute you are talking about water quality for OWRC purposes and the next minute you are talking about human health in relation to the use of that water.

Mr. T. P. Reid: So what you are saying is that there will not be really any resolution of this? In other words, what you are saying is that there will not be a uniform set of standards coming out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only way I can think that could take place is if the local MOH turned over his duties in relation to the quality of water in respect to swimming, as well as anything else, and this were all under one department.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right, well let us go from there to the other end of the province if we may. I would like to discuss with the minister for a few minutes the situation in regard to the Rainy River which is in my riding in the Rainy River district, and I have a number of questions I would like to put in this regard.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, is this on the same topic of bacteria?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Bacteria and water quality standards, yes. I would like to go a little further with this water quality standards. The International Joint Commission report on the pollution of Rainy River and Lake of the Woods of February, 1965, on page 18, set down certain water quality objectives for the Rainy River, and their first general objective under A read:

In general, all wastes including sanitary sewage, garbage, refuse, storm water and industrial effluence should be in such a condition, when discharged into the river, that they do not create conditions which will adversely affect the use of the waters as a source of domestic or industrial water supply or for navigation, fish and wildlife, bathing, recreation, agriculture and other riparian activities.

Now, the report went into some detail about pollution of the Rainy River and I received various reports at one time from OWRC. I wonder if the minister can indicate to me, first of all, how far the recommendations of the International Joint Commission were accepted by OWRC and, secondly, by our American friends in the state of Minnesota.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This report, as well as the report dealing with the lower Great Lakes basin—we have no reason to necessarily take issue with what they say or with the recommendations that IJC makes in respect to this

body of water. There are some problems, as the hon. member knows, as far as Minnesota is concerned, particularly with one or two industries there. Generally, I am just trying to find that copy of that report. Was that in the general report?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes.

Mr. Caverly: If I may just say, the IJC have developed some criteria again for international waters and the Rainy River, as an international water—that is, the technical boards of the IJC have developed some water quality criteria. They are not identical but they are compatible, and we in Ontario and in the OWRC have accepted in a general way these criteria. What page are you reading from?

Mr. T. P. Reid: You have got the 1970 report there, not the 1965 one. You can have a look at this. The 1970 report mentions the water quality objectives, and I know that on the Ontario side the mill and the town have taken corrective action to a large extent. We now have secondary treatment of the municipal sewage, and the mill at Fort Frances has done certain things to ameliorate the kind of waste that they were putting into the water. What have the Americans done, this being an international waterway? What have they done?

Mr. Caverly: Well their programme of course is lagging. I think the thing that may be holding it all in limbo is the fact that there will be a new mill built there—a 500-ton kraft mill.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is on the Canadian side.

Mr. Caverly: That is on the Canadian side but it is the same company and it is all tied together. I am not defending what they are doing in Minnesota; they have got a lot of cleaning up to do—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, is there any way—

Mr. Caverly: —because if you take those figures in there—I do not know whether that report has them in there or not—but, as I was saying to you earlier, they have over-used their half of the assimilated capacity of the Rainy River.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Are there on going talks between OWRC and the Minnesota pollution control organization in regard to this?

Mr. Caverly: The only way that we can—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This was part of our committee discussions in Michigan, in Detroit. In discussing the IJC report for the lower Great Lakes as well as your area—with reference to the condition in particular states, including Minnesota—they admitted at that particular meeting they were having trouble with one or two of their industries, but said that they did have the legislation now and intended to enforce it. They were not prepared to completely accept some of the submissions in the IJC report, but they were prepared to go along with the recommendations.

Mr. T. P. Reid: In the 1970 report, there is a part—and I have not got the exact page—where bark fibre and waste material is pumped across from the mill in Fort Frances to International Falls and then, in some cases, dumped in the river from the American side.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are saying here that the Boise-Cascade Corporation should make a greater effort to comply with the requirements of the Minnesota pollution control agency for the control of suspended solids. I suppose that is what you mean. The sources, the mill sources of phenol and bacterial pollution should be identified and brought under control where necessary.

Mr. D. Caplice (Ontario Water Resources Commission) **Mr. Chairman,** I would only like to clarify for Mr. Reid the fact that we do meet with the Minnesota people under the umbrella, I guess, of the International Joint Commission. We are able to follow progress in pollution control at the Boise-Cascade mill at International Falls. Their primary waste treatment was due to be operational in March of this year—it was operational last month really—and they are making further reductions through the introduction of a lime kiln and other things that will be completed next fall. They have gone to dry barking which will overcome the problem of the bark being carried across in a water stream from the Canadian side to the American side and then perhaps being introduced from time to time back to the river; so they are lagging in terms of a pollution control programme.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How about the phenol problem. Are there any phenols coming out of the Canadian side of the mill? Are they all from the American side?

Mr. Caplice: We think they are principally from the American side. I believe one of the reports you have there—either 1965 or 1970—

indicates a level of five or six pounds, I think, from the mill on the Ontario side. There are higher levels than that being recorded in the receiving waters down below these mills, and I think a great part of it could be from some of the practices on the American side. These kraft mills have a habit of using kerosene and other things as defoamers, and these things will give you a very positive phenol result in the receiving water.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am a little concerned about the phenols in particular. Someone is doing some research for me on this and what he has done so far, with the use of a computer, is that he has found—among other things—that the phenol—the parts per million average—seems to be somewhat higher than the figures taken by OWRC.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Whose figures are higher than OWRC?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, a local school teacher in the area has been doing some research, and with the aid of a computer he has come up with some higher average figures for the phenol content in the water than OWRC.

Mr. Caplice: **Mr. Chairman,** is he using data that is collected on the river by the Minnesota agency as well as the OWRC and then arriving at a different overall average based on some approach that he has developed?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I believe he has based his research particularly on the American figures.

What Minnesota is doing now, will this clear up the phenol situation in particular?

Mr. Caplice: I really am not up to date on Minnesota's overall approach to secondary treatment. They have certainly got the primary waste treatments in hand, but they will need to take some further steps along the road, I think, to overcome the phenol thing. In terms of handling phenol, they are looking, I think, to a biological breakdown of this material in a designed waste treatment facility or the removal of the particular constituent from the mill process. So they have a couple of choices in that area, I think.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is rather sad that one of the most beautiful rivers in the area is in the mess it is, with sludge and bark and all this stuff in the water, and is a potential hazard to health—particularly downstream in the communities around Pinewood and Rainy River itself. Can the minister or his officials

indicate when this river will be restored to some kind of state of health, so that it can be safely used as a domestic water supply for recreational uses such as swimming? Do we have a planned programme, a phased programme in this regard?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is only so much we can do with sources in Minnesota. It has to be done by way of co-operation, and I am hoping this agreement that is going to be signed between our two countries this spring, based on these IJC reports, will mean that there will be uniform action. As the hon. member has indicated, the municipality has a secondary treatment plant and the new kraft mill is going to have primary and secondary treatment facilities.

The report indicates, for example, that there is about 15 times as much BOD coming from the U.S. side as the Canadian side. There is about the same percentage over the Canadian side as far as suspended solids, pounds per day, is concerned. For example, in 1969, the figure from the U.S. paper mills for suspended solids, pounds per day, was 338,000; Canada's was 11,400.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I have a copy of the report.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Municipal was 265. Our municipal was higher in those days. Those are 1969 figures that I have. However, as far as BOD was concerned, for paper mills in the States it was 94,000 pounds per day; Canadian mills, 10,000; municipal 260; the States still—is this a new secondary treatment plant in Fort Frances?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, it is—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If the Minnesota people—as I have indicated, they said at our last meeting dealing with IJC report, that their problem is industrial; apparently their own municipalities are doing something. Now whether or not this applies to International Falls I am not sure, but it is a matter of enforcing their legislation against their industries.

Mr. T. P. Reid: In some cases, they do not have much legislation. I have a letter from my counterpart on that side and he has had difficulty and no success in getting such legislation to deal particularly with this problem passed through the Minnesota house. I do not know whether this is possible but I throw it out for the minister's consideration.

You also are in charge of Ontario Hydro and we are exporting power to that mill on the American side. Now, can we not use this export of power as a lever on them that if they do not start cleaning up their side of the waterways and quit polluting, we are going to cut their power off—

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Right, cut the power!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Apparently they need some power to operate that antipollution machine they have over there.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): May I ask a question, Mr. Chairman? I am curious to know—you are talking about signing agreements and IJC having some new things that they are offering in the way of combatting the problems of pollution in the water. Supposing one of the member states decides not to pursue the policy, even though they have agreed in the initial stages that this is how it ought to be followed—what then?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Nothing: Nothing, right now, outside of the fact that we would focus public opinion on that situation. We would publish that information as much as possible; I would hope the IJC would say, in the event, that they are going to conduct some sort of surveillance as to standards and who is living up to them. Right now, really, there is no way as far as we are concerned. Of course, there are the usual remedies within that state.

Mr. Deans: Yes, but assuming that they decided not to follow up?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes?

Mr. Deans: What is happening, then, in regard to the possibility of giving up some of our power in the field of water protection to the federal government in order that we can perhaps then have a joint federal body of the two countries that would oversee waters that are obviously of joint concern, so that we can pursue in the courts any infringements or infractions against the regulations that are drafted. What is the minister doing in that regard?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have indicated at the conference, we have indicated at subsequent committee meetings that were set up—an *ad hoc* committee that was set up resulting from that conference—that Ontario was prepared to go that far. That Ontario was prepared to give a body, for example, like IJC,

certain powers which would enable it to enforce some type of international standard dealing with water quality in the Great Lakes.

Mr. Deans: You can recall, I am sure, when I appeared before the IJC hearings in Hamilton; you were there. This was suggested, and you rejected it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Rejected it?

Mr. Deans: You did it offhand at the time, but you have since come around. What do you expect the province would be prepared to give up in the way of jurisdiction in order to achieve some meaningful legislative programme between the two countries that would be enforceable in the courts rather than just hoping that the goodwill of each will carry out the programme? What do you imagine we are prepared to give up at the moment in order to accomplish that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would think that we are prepared to tell the International Joint Commission, or we are prepared to tell the eight states on the southern boundaries of these lakes and our two sister provinces that we would be prepared to enter into an agreement that would call for some agency, whether it is IJC or some other agency, with some teeth that could say to any member "The water in your area of Lake Erie was of such-and-such a quality that it breached the International Joint Commission standards and therefore certain remedies could be taken against Ontario." As the hon. member knows, it would have to be in the form of a treaty.

Mr. Deans: Right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There would have to be pretty well unanimous agreement. Right at the present time, I have very little hope that we are going to get these states to agree to go that far.

Mr. Deans: Has Ontario put forward any programme that outlines the areas where they would be prepared to enter into such a pact? Have you made this available to the federal government by direct consultation in order that they could engage the other provinces and states in some kind of direct consultative on-going programme that would bring about the final signing of such a pact? What have we done in that regard? What meetings are being held now, at this time, between the provinces and states involved and both federal governments in order to

try to hammer out a pact that would be acceptable?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There have been a number of meetings at both levels. There have been meetings involving the two federal governments with a certain amount of state and provincial input. They have set up, I think it was a board—

Mr. Caverly: A Great Lakes working group.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: A Great Lakes working group, which involved representatives from the states and the provinces. Then we had our own committee resulting from our last years' environmental conference, made up of the Great Lakes states and the provinces and including the representatives of the two federal governments. For the most part really, except possibly at the top, we had the same people trying to reach the same objectives. Now, we have—

Mr. Deans: They have come to—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have realized as I say, as a result of our meetings, that there was just no way that Ontario was going to get any agreement from at least half of those eight states to give up any sovereignty whatsoever or any control over waterways within their state boundaries to some other group, including their own federal government.

We were at a standstill. We were frustrated as far as getting any type of unanimous agreement on that was concerned. The best we could do was to get an agreement that there would be uniform standards; that they would agree to surveillance by IJC or a more empowered commission—a commission with more powers to carry out this type of surveillance—that the findings would be published and, if any state was not living up to these standards, of course, that this information would be published.

They would not agree, for example, to this survey being conducted upstream. The only thing they would agree to would be that this survey would be pretty well at the mouth of these various rivers.

Mr. Deans: But we would have agreed to upstream?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We had no objection to that. We have all the facts and figures anyway, for example, of the Grand or some river—

Mr. Deans: I am just trying to see where the differences are.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Deans: We would have agreed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. Now the only objection we can see here is the giving up of some sovereignty, the giving up of some authority to this international body which would say or which could, in fact, if necessary prosecute a state or a province, the same as we can prosecute under The OWRC Act, because it is not living up to a certain programme that it was agreed would be undertaken by all states as far as nutrient removal is concerned or sewage treatment was concerned. This they just would not agree to.

Mr. Deans: Could we get some kind of agreement from those states on the quality standards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not think there is any problem there.

Mr. Deans: Was there agreement, generally speaking, on standards?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is there any difference as far as you are concerned, between standards enforced by Ontario and the other states?

Mr. T. P. Reid: They cannot agree between the Health Department and the OWRC!

Mr. Caverly: There has been a compatibility. They are not identical on the other side, but there is that much compatibility that there is no problem.

Mr. Deans: There is a problem; we have not got it resolved.

Mr. Caverly: I think that what the minister is going to lead up to is the fact that we are just starting now to work out this agreement. The working group has done the factual work of taking the IJC report and looking at it in greater depth and covering the areas. Now they have got the facts which they can use as a foundation to try to negotiate a treaty or an agreement. I think it will end up as an agreement, because there is some constitutional hangup on the American side if it is treaty. I did not get into all of that.

But there is this ministerial meeting in Washington on June 10, which is just about one year after the first ministerial meeting was held in Ottawa, and during this 12 months the working group has been working on all of the technical data, as I say. We are just at the stage where we are going to start working out an agreement, which will have to

take into account all of those sort of questions that you have raised, because we have raised the same questions.

Mr. Deans: So we have reached that point then where we are now starting to formulate the agreement itself. Do you have any guess as to how long this is likely to take? Because the problem of course is that while we keep cleaning up the garbage, they keep dumping it in and the taxpayers in Ontario pay the shot for cleaning up the garbage from the States and from other places in addition to their own garbage.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Particularly in the Great Lakes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have got to understand that the latest information is that Governor Milliken has set a date in August for this governors' conference which would be similar to the one we had in September. The only difference is that since our conference we have had four meetings of this committee.

Also there will be the Washington meeting, which is in June and which is involving the states with the federal government. I am hoping that by August, if this is when this conference is to be called, that there will be a final agreement on what is being done in Washington.

In other words, the IJC will present this agreement to the member states and the federal governments and the provinces and this will be accepted, I would hope, at the governors' conference.

They have got this constitutional hangup—even worse than in Canada—in the States.

Mr. Deans: One final point and I will leave it for the moment: Let us assume then that you were able to agree in June—on some standards, that each of the bordering provinces and states agrees to some regulations and enforcement of these standards, and recognizing that the cost is ultimately going to be borne by the residents in any case.

Why then cannot we take a look at the possibility of entering into some kind of—and I use the words "per capita" not necessarily meaning that—but some method of determining the cost of the cleanup and then allocating that cost proportionately throughout the various provinces and states and making that money available to this joint body to carry on its work in the final decision-making as to how the antipollution effort will be carried out. Is this a possibility?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You see, you are saying that IJC—

Mr. Deans: Whatever it is.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —should be the treasurer.

Mr. Deans: I am suggesting that once the decisions have been made as to how it will be done and once the regulations have been drawn up as to how the enforcement will take place, there is then the whole matter of making sure that there is something happening.

Since any one state or province not living up to its obligation naturally imposes a tremendous burden on the remainder because they have to clean up their garbage, it makes more sense to come to a conclusion as to how this cost can be allocated throughout the jurisdictional areas and make the money available to the one central body to enforce and to spend for the programme that you have brought about.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That may be a possibility. One thing is that the money has to be raised from these states and from the provinces. It has to be levied within the boundaries of those states, on the taxpayers. It must be part of that state government's budget as well as, I suppose, some federal contribution or federal participation.

This is the problem. The governor of Ohio said last September the whole problem here is money and enforcement—never mind all your highfalutin studies and committee meetings and great conferences, he says; it is money and enforcement. At that time he advised us that it was going to be all right because the U.S. federal government had just allocated \$35 billion for sewage treatment in the southern shores of the Great Lakes. They are still waiting for that.

It is more than a matter, I am sure, to get agreement here. We all know that if there is going to be agreement in Washington on June 10, the Secretary or the Treasury down there is going to say, "To help this get along, gentlemen, I have got \$30 billion right here in the kitty for you." And say Mr. Benson or Mr. Davis is going to say the same thing as far as Canada is concerned—which is really Ontario for the most part—"We will pay so much or CMHC will be involved to a certain degree in this programme."

Frankly, we are not saying that we are going to move unless we get money from the federal treasury. We have got to go ahead, but it is going to be quite a load on these

various municipalities. I think the figure is around \$40 million.

Mr. Deans: That is the big problem.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. So if it is \$40 million, it is a matter of getting the municipalities to agree to pay at least part of this, with cost-sharing programmes involving either CMHC or the province. But that really is the whole thing; it is going to be a matter of money.

The only one point that I would make now that would be an exception to this is the question of sovereignty. They are quite sensitive about states' rights and the federal government or some international agency telling them what to do. It was most discouraging, frankly, after three committee meetings lasting one day each, that we could not get any agreement on giving IJC any real enforcement powers or power to penalize outside of, as I say, setting standards, surveillance monitoring, publication and—well, that is about it.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Maybe if I could get back to where I was, Mr. Chairman, I understand that OWRC's standard for arsenic in the water is 10 parts per billion. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are asking me all these highly technical questions—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, what I am trying to arrive at is some standard for water quality across the province.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Would that be for drinking, swimming or fishing?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, in my area we do just about everything in the water.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is why it is polluted.

Mr. B. Newman: We heard about that.

Mr. Caverly: To answer your question on that. It is .05, and because this is dealing with toxic material, we have to take our direction on that limit from the Health Department.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It is only 5 per million?

Mr. Caverly: 0.5 parts per million.

Mr. T. P. Reid: .05 parts. Like mercury?

Mr. Caplice: 0.05.

Mr. Caverly: 0.5, is it not?

Mr. Caplice: .05; mercury is .5.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, .05. All right. The information I have is that in the Rainy River, between 1962 and 1967, the arsenic level apparently averaged 27 part per billion. Now, my computer-like brain will not tell me how much that is.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: .027, is it not?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Where would that arsenic be coming from? Also out of the paper mills?

Mr. Caverly: I am not aware that there is any arsenic coming out of that source. I do not know whether Mr. Caplice would know—but my first reaction would be a background level.

Mr. Caplice: Any mining going on around there?

Mr. T. P. Reid: I would just like to get onto one more topic, if I may, and that has to do with mercury pollution, which we have all been waiting for. I see a few of those people in the corner kind of woke up.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, are we going to alternate speakers or topics?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Reid, if you would not mind, we will stay on the same subject. I think Mr. Pitman has a question.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Thank you very much. I would like to talk about this business of water quality, and particularly a matter which came to my attention; it crosses the boundary, I suppose, with waste management, but it appears to me to be involved with water quality in this particular case. I have come to realize that there is no legislation which apparently is operative in relation to the dumping of the pumpings of septic tanks. That is, I understand that this kind of a dump is not included in the legislation in relation to waste management.

Now, as the minister well knows, we have had a good deal of concern toward this in relation to the septic tank problem, and in many of these lakes we are going to have to put in holding tanks. Of course, there is going to be a great deal of this kind of this pumping material; it is not particularly a pleasant discussion, but nonetheless it is the reality of life in the Kawarthas. And what we have discovered is that an individual apparently can go to a farmer and say, "I want to use your field to put this material on," and pay the farmer, and the material is simply dumped on his farm.

In one particular case—actually in Chandos Lake, which is not very far from the city of Peterborough—what happened was that it was dumped last fall, then you had snow, freezing rain and so on, and in the spring the whole thing went right into the lake, with considerable deterioration of the water quality of the lake.

The problem, I understand, arises from the fact that waste management was taken from The Department of Health and given to your department, while the problem of septic tank pumpings was kept within The Department of Health. Actually, they should properly belong in some form of environmental control legislation.

What I trying to get at is the whole question of when is the minister going to get some kind of legislation, effective legislation, which will not create this kind of a problem. Because it is going to be a continuing and increasing problem, certainly in many lake areas, where you are going to have and more need for that kind of a dumping station, and where there is simply going to be this kind of thing happening again and again.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well my understanding as far as the dumpings from septic systems are concerned—you are referring to the clean-out now?

Mr. Pitman: Right. That is the pumpings.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This substance, as well as the sludge from our OWRC treatment plants, is all disposed of under licence. That you have somebody that has an agreement with either the municipality, an individual, or the plant, to take these dumpings and use them as fertilizer.

Mr. Pitman: Who supervises it? Who sets the standards for these things?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They have to get a licence to use a certain area for disposal. Now as far as waste management is concerned, they have to be satisfied that it is being disposed of properly.

Mr. Pitman: I understand it is not in The Waste Management Act?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Whether you have to specifically have it in the Act or not, I do not know.

Mr. Pitman: Well I think you would find it is not.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is a question of proper location of a disposal site for certain wastes. Now whether it is under the regulations—I am sure it would be pollution if it were near a watercourse that would involve OWRC.

Mr. Pitman: The local county health unit and the local municipality are totally hung up on this. They do not know who is responsible. They certainly do not know anybody who sets the standards in terms of distance from water, or distance from any kind of seepage—the whole problem of how licensing is carried out.

As far as I can make out from my investigation, it was simply a private arrangement between the man who was dealing with the pumping of the septic tanks and the individual farmer who happened to have a piece of land he was prepared to allow this stuff to be dumped on. It happened to be very near to the lake, as it turned out.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: My understanding is that the man who hauls the stuff away has to have a licence.

Mr. Pitman: You may have to have a licence to clean the stuff out, but does he have to have a licence to decide where it goes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right. He is asked where is it being hauled to.

Mr. Pitman: Who asks him?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There are inspections.

Mr. Pitman: Who inspects?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I had assumed, for example, as far as sewage treatment plants are concerned, that would be OWRC; as far as septic systems are concerned, it would be waste management.

Mr. Pitman: I think we had better get this thing straightened out. My impression, from talking to the people in this area, is that nobody is very clear as to who has the jurisdiction. It seems to me this should be very clear indeed.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And you say that the local medical officer of health has just washed his hands of it?

Mr. Pitman: As far as I can make out, he claims this is not his responsibility. The claim that I had in fact is coming from someone in your department, that this is an area where

the legislation has not been framed yet, simply because the whole area of waste management was taken away from The Department of Health, and The Department of Health has not yet dealt with the problem of septic tank pumpings. I think this is a very real hole in the legislation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know what the question is, but if it is a hole it is a—

Mr. Pitman: I assume when you get a Department of the Environment this is going to be in it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. As far as The Department of the Environment is concerned, the legislation that will be involved with that will include the inspection of septic systems under our department. So that will be taken away from that particular branch of Health and will come under a new department. Therefore, right from the start we will have the inspection of the installation of septic systems and certainly the ultimate disposal of the gunk that goes in there.

Mr. Caverly: I think the proper, or the most desirable, method for ultimate disposal of this is through a sewer system and through a sewage treatment plant. I think if we get more sewer systems around the province, in the smaller places, that we will try to divert more of this into those systems, so that it will go through a treatment works. But it is a problem in isolated areas at the present time—no doubt about it.

Mr. Pitman: I see; this is the real problem.

Mr. Caverly: This is the way I see it, and if we get sewers into the smaller places covering the province this will be a way of handling it. You have got to bleed it in, you cannot give it a shot and upset your treatment works.

Mr. Pitman: But your cottage country is pretty far from sewage works.

Mr. Caverly: As we get the sewage works up in your area, in Bobcaygeon and Haliburton and Minden and those places, it may be a little further to drive but I think that we can eventually completely outlaw any land disposal of it.

Mr. Pitman: Can I tell that to—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You do not want to lose sight that this is only one part of this whole problem of—

Mr. Pitman: Waste disposal!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Waste disposal!

Mr. Pitman: I agree.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not only that, but the business of land fertilization, whether it is a chemical or whether it is manure or whether it is the cleansing of a septic system, this whole business of proper application and disposal is certainly under the waste management branch. I will take a look to see if it is not covered by our regulations. I am surprised if that is not there.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to follow up your comment on The Department of the Environment. The bill has not been introduced yet?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not yet; this month though.

Mr. Pitman: Is there any chance it will be introduced this session?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, this month.

Mr. Pitman: This month? May we assume then that there will be a wholesale transfer of people working for The Department of Health to The Department of the Environment?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not wholesale. The Department of Health is a pretty big department, as the hon. member knows, and there is the engineering branch of environmental health, which includes the supervision of septic systems and the inspection of septic systems, involving for the most part the local medical officer of health and his staff.

Mr. Pitman: Will they be tied in with your department?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They will be tied in with my department. There are still some negotiations to be carried out between the Minister of Health (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) and myself about this, but I am hoping that this particular function will be under the new department. There is some concern at the local medical officer of health level, naturally. As you know, this is only one function of a local medical officer of health. However, rather than us going out and hiring all new staff for inspection, there may be some way we could second part of the local MOH's staff to OWRC, for example, to carry out this.

Mr. Pitman: I am very anxious on this point, because I can see some kind of a transition period in which you are going to be without the proper staff. You are going to be right back in the mess you are in with waste management, where you have some poor devil down in eastern Ontario trying to supervise 300 dumps. The poor guy has not even seen them; it will take him five years to see them.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Surely he has started?

Mr. Pitman: He has started yes; I am not sure how many he has got to yet.

Mr. Ruston: He should get a helicopter.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): He will get quite depressed at the first 50.

Mr. Pitman: The point is, if you end up in the transition, you may end up with the problem of environmental disaster unless you have the number of people who are going to be needed involved in this process.

I might just bring up another small point here on the question that we were talking about, the small areas that get septic tanks. Is there any effort when you come into a small town to determine who is responsible for the pollution? This causes some real problems in a small town where the cost per person is going to be about \$250 on the taxes. There is a feeling that just a very small number of people are causing the problem. Is there any effort on the part of the Ontario Water Resources Commission to identify the problem before deciding—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Certainly. If it is industrial or commercial there is no problem doing that; the charge is borne by them.

Mr. Pitman: Is this done with individuals who are taxpayers?

Mr. Caverly: We do pollution surveys, and one of the things that we always look at is what is the best way to correct the problem. If it can be corrected by individual household septic tanks then those offenders—

Mr. Pitman: That is done, is it?

Mr. Caverly: It is; but also in same breath, I will add that our usual experience has been that you get down in the centre part of the town where they are built on the whole lot and there is just no way of doing this. This usually then tips the thing over to a proper sewage system.

You have to build it for the core, and what we often do is build it in stages. In other words, the initial part to take care of the area that is causing the problem, and then, as soon as a fellow starts having trouble with his septic tank, he gets very interested in sewers. It is amazing how many times we have extensions to sewer systems even before the initial stage has been completed. It kind of catches on.

Mr. Pitman: Yes, but it also turns off, too, if there are people who feel that a very small number of people are the problem and the sewage system is being built for those people—

Mr. Caverly: We have had that problem; there is the odd one around. I remember one very well that I was personally involved in in a small town north of Toronto where we had just four or five commercial stores. There was a large communal septic tank in town, built in the town park playing field and this served the purpose for pretty close to 20 years. Then the town grew and they now have a sewage system, but that is what you are talking about; the same sort of principle.

Mr. Pitman: Yes, it seems to me you are going to be getting into more and more of this. The history of the OWRC for the next 20 or 25 years is going to be trying to get smaller communities to develop sewage systems.

I might say something else, too, in this area. Has it ever been considered the responsibility of the OWRC not only to deal with the individual municipality but to deal with the townships around it? Because for the last two years there has been a great deal of consternation over the fact—for example in Norwood, where you have a municipal sewage works going into that town. A river leading out of Norwood and going all the way down to the Trent river is about that wide—you could actually put your hands around it; it goes through about a six-inch pipe.

You can imagine the people all the way down this township figuring that all the sewage from all those people up there is going to go right through their back yard; it is going to wreck this whole township. There does not seem to be any relationship between the OWRC and the town water authorities. What is—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sure Mr. Caverly can back this up, I am sure that our effluent

standards, as far as that little community is concerned, are based on the receiving water, the route of the receiving water and the use of the receiving water.

Mr. Pitman: It took a little while before what you might say is a higher level of sewage treatment finally became apparent. It was used in Norwood as a first level of sewage treatment that was going to be used. At the beginning, there was a great deal of consternation; a very reasonable and, I think, a well-thought out consternation about what was going on. I am just thinking that from a future point of view, it might be well to think in—I hate to use the term—regional terms in regard to the whole business of tying in the OWRC to those who are going to be the users.

Mr. Caverly: I will just answer, Mr. Chairman, with your permission. Your question really was framed around the outside municipality and the effect of the receiving stream on them. I know the Norwood case very well and we have been able to resolve that so that the existing water quality is protected. One of the things in our provincial type of financing and the development of sewage or water works for a municipality, is when we look at it, we do look beyond so that in the initial concept of it, we will not stop at the boundary line, the municipal boundary line, if the people outside want service. We do have to look at it as a region. That is the only way you can look at it.

Mr. Makarchuk: Mr. Chairman, the minister earlier mentioned the idea of setting target dates for the cleanup of rivers. He mentioned the fact with rivers going through international lands you cannot very well do that. Getting back to local rivers, and particularly the Grand River—this matter has been raised previously or in previous estimates. Can the minister indicate what target dates he has got set for that, for the cleanup of that particular river or what plans he has in the future?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As far as the Grand is concerned it depends on the situation with the communities along the Grand. As the hon. member knows, we have just recently been involved in the construction of sewage treatment plants. It seems to me that Preston, for example, has a new one. Guelph has a new plant that is going to be open this spring, a new addition.

Mr. Makarchuk: Elmira.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Elmira, Cayuga!

Mr. Makarchuk: Again, Mr. Chairman, as for improving the water quality, there does not seem to be any change, really, in the water quality, looking at your computer print as it varies from season to season. Sometimes it is even usable for recreation about the middle of January but ordinarily during the summer months it is not available for that purpose. I just wondered if the minister had any kind of a target date when you could say that by that time the water will reach that level? I imagine you are taking into account, of course, the fact of the dams, that there will be more dilution, etc?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right!

Mr. Makarchuk: But do you have any kind of a date that you can give?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: For example, the Grand River, as far as the proposal for construction of dams by the Grand River Conservation Authority is concerned, I believe that goes to 1974.

There is also some plan—I am just looking—there is still another municipality that is now in the process that we did not mention of upgrading the sewage treatment facilities. There is the Treasury report—I do not know if the hon. member read that Treasury report?

Mr. Makarchuk: Yes, regarding the pipeline and—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Regarding the pipeline as the hon. member knows, the intake, I believe, has been constructed. Are they laying pipe now?

Mr. Caverly: No, just the intake.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Just the intake.

Mr. Makarchuk: Once again if I may interrupt, Mr. Chairman; admittedly the pipeline will eventually become necessary, but there is, of course, a feeling that if the pipeline is built, the Grand has had it as far as the government is concerned on taking any responsibility of ensuring that it is clean, because you will have another source of water.

Right now there is a certain onus of responsibility on you to keep it clean because a few communities, Brantford being the major one, draw water from the Grand. There has to be some degree of pollution control on it. Basically, the problem besides the water problem, is the recreation problem.

It is a good source, or possibly could be an excellent source of providing recreational facilities on that river in that area, provided the river is cleaned up. It seems to me that every year we are discussing this matter and we are not coming any closer to the ideal situation right now.

The urbanization upstream is increasing and consequently more sewage, etc., and various chemicals, particularly some of the rather exotic chemicals will be dumped into it and so on. This is the concern. Are you going to clean it up or are you not going to clean it up? Have we got a target date for this or are we just going to let it sort of dawdle with this thing?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You see, it makes it difficult to answer your question when you say: "Are you going to clean it up?" It is sort of a broad, generalized statement. All I can say is, as I have said now, each municipality has got to have proper sewage treatment facilities; that is the source of your pollution.

Mr. Makarchuk: Right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no intention, on our behalf—because we may have pipewater available, say, for Brantford—there is no question of us reducing our standards of water quality in the Grand. We will maintain those standards.

Mr. Makarchuk: But which standards do you intend to maintain? Our concern is are you going to raise the standards of the quality of the water where it could be used for recreational facilities? When are you going to reach that standard?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are going to increase the water quality in the Grand for recreational facilities.

Mr. Makarchuk: To increase the standard of of the water so that it could be used for recreational purposes?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. As I have already mentioned there is a Grand River basin study. This is a water-use planning study which was initiated last year and we have had an interim report entitled "Waste Water Loading Guidelines for the Grand River."

That was published last January. This study is involving OWRC, conservation authorities, the conservation authorities branch and the Treasury Board. Now the OWRC naturally is involved in the interpretation of water quality conditions.

Mr. Makarchuk: We are not questioning—we are aware of that. What we are trying to get across is that you know we cannot swim in your studies but we obviously are swimming in the studies. You know we want the water cleaned up.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am just getting to that. If you would not interrupt me, I am getting to that. All I am saying is that we are having this study with the idea of the development of around a \$40 million programme for dams on the Grand River and the development of recreational facilities on the Grand River. The idea is that this study will recommend certain types or certain degrees of water quality to enable that river to be used for recreational purposes.

When we build a dam, as the hon. member knows we create a recreational area. We buy enough land not only to build the structure but to develop parks and recreational areas so that our water quality standards will have to be sufficient to allow people to swim or sail, for example, or what have you in that Grand River area.

Mr. Makarchuk: But the dams will not be built on the Grand River. The dams will be built on tributaries to the Grand River, and the recreational areas will be within, shall we say, the water that is held back by the dams from the tributaries. I am concerned about the Grand itself. A lot of people are looking at the Grand as an excellent source or an excellent place for recreation; and this is what we want to know: When are you going to reach that stage when the water quality in the Grand is such that it could be used for swimming or bathing or boating or whatever?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Depending on if we go ahead with the programme—assuming we get the money and we go ahead with the programme—our objectives are about the end of 1974. Do you want to add anything to that?

Mr. Caverly: No, I think the Berg report and the Treasury Board report put a good foundation to what is proposed there. They set a dissolved oxygen level as a criterion. I forget whether it was five or six parts per million.

Mr. Makarchuk: I think it was five.

Mr. Caverly: But I think the key in there was two things. One is the need for additional reservoirs to provide—

Mr. Makarchuk: To dilute the sewage, right.

Mr. Caverly: Higher degrees of treatment in certain critical wants. They talked about Guelph, where they would need further treatment, probably sand filtration of a type, and combine that with nutrient removal which you are going to need there, regardless of what they do for the Great Lakes. They need it for our local condition. Those four things are the key to the Grand River, but you have got to do one or two things on a river basin. One, of course, is the river can only take so much treated effluent so you either have to upgrade treatment or increase flow or restrict development. This is up to, I say—

Mr. Makarchuk: In other words, the final decision, as far as you are concerned and this department is concerned, assuming the studies of the projections you have made, if you go along with that, you may have it cleaned up in 1974. But if the Department of Trade and Development decides to go with a city or some expansion, then you will have to put it off until 1976—something of this nature.

Mr. Caverly: There is an allowance for a certain amount of growth in the whole area, but the other thing, of course, is that under these guidelines and to carry out the programme—and the Grand will be one of the first that we do—there will be hearings for the establishment of river use, where the general public will have an opportunity to express their views on what they would like to use that river for, whether it be recreation or agriculture—

Mr. Makarchuk: I would imagine that on those reports for the public, the information has been conveyed to you by various groups for the last, say, 10 to 15 years. They have been sending some kind of report to you and there have been various regional economic studies as an example which have indicated this. This has been going on. They did the surveys with the local people to find out what their views are or their feelings are on this.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I promise you that the study that is in effect now is going to be the last one.

Mr. Makarchuk: This is what we want to know—that we have reached the last stage.

Mr. C. T. Rollins (Hastings): The member for Peterborough mentioned septic tanks and

distribution. Is it the intent of your department to license these individuals that are cleaning out septic tanks?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, this is the idea. This is what I am under the impression is going on now, the same as we have for the removing of sludge from our sewage treatment plants.

Mr. Rollins: They will be licensed from your department?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right.

Mr. Rollins: The next question, what is your position on studies of various lakes, where there has been a study back for several years, made maybe through The Department of Health or through different sources of the department, of picking up this study and information and getting some active movement on cleaning up where there is pollution going into various lakes? There were studies made several years ago and, to the best of my knowledge, in Hastings county. The county health unit indicates it is not its department. The Department of Health says it has the information. There has not been anything done about it as far as our area goes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: One of the main reasons for conducting a study, regardless of where it is, but usually in less builtup areas, is to follow up earlier analysis that indicates there is a problem in that area.

Mr. Rollins: If I may mention, these were individual cottageowners, at whose cottage the septic systems were tested. The various ones who are contributing to pollution of the environment and, the others who are not, are known.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member for Ontario South will tell you—too bad he just left—if you have a septic tank that is polluting, you will get a letter from the local medical officer of health, telling you to correct the situation, take steps to correct this situation with the tank, or leave your cottage locked.

Mr. Rollins: Yes, but this is not happening and this is not a uniform arrangement. Somebody has to take the responsibility and pick up these studies and do something with them. Basically, we have not got the time or the money or something.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is a continuous controversy that is going on. We have one local medical officer of health who is saying that

OWRC standards are too lax and we get another situation where the local medical officer of health is saying that it is not his responsibility. That is something I hope will be ironed out once and for all with new legislation.

Mr. Rollins: Put it in its proper perspective of regulations so it is on an equal distribution of administration.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no question at the present time that if there are septic systems in your area, for example, that are not functioning properly and that they are contaminating the water the local medical officer of health has the power, not only to require that septic system to be corrected, but to lay a charge against that particular cottage owner, so there is no confusion there. That can be done under existing legislation but you have put your finger on it as a question of some county health units not being properly staffed or having sufficient people to go around and make the necessary inspections in order to lay these charges or to follow up on complaints.

Mr. Rollins: Going back to The Department of Health, these studies were made possibly by students, several years ago. Why cannot this information be made available and put into some positive approach of getting some of this taken care of?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If you talking about—

Mr. Rollins: They picked several lakes for study.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right, well that was just last summer.

Mr. Rollins: In 1967, I believe.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know of any survey that involved my department in 1967.

Mr. Rollins: I would not say it was yours. I would say it was The Department of Health. I do not think it was yours.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I can tell you is what is going on now. At the present time, starting last year, we have teams going into these various lakes, made up of students and personnel from OWRC and The Department of Health. When they find a system that is not functioning properly a card or information to that effect is left with the cottage owner and he is then required to advise the department and the local medical officers of health when corrective measures have been taken. Now,

if nothing is done, if he does not send this card in, then it is followed up and there is a prosecution. I believe there were prosecutions last summer under this survey.

Mr. Rollins: Would there be any objection to a member that is elected for the area being able to be kept informed directly or in some manner of what is taking place or happening if he requested?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, there is no reason at all.

Mr. Rollins: Then I would be very pleased to have the information on Hastings county as to what has been done and it is expected will be done in this regard.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You have got the Moira Lake and Moira River—

Mr. Rollins: Limerick Lake is being checked.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Limerick Lake.

Mr. Rollins: I am not sure about Bass Lake, but I know that Limerick Lake was one that was checked, possibly in 1967. There may be others but I know of that one.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We will send you that information.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to get some information from the minister with respect to an arrangement which has come to my attention between, in this case, an industry in Hamilton and a farmer in my part of the country whereby, I think it was sulphuric acid, was trucked into that area. I think there is a system whereby the farmer has a contract. He gets, I think, \$5 a load and they bring this stuff up, dump it and that is it. Now what is the legal situation? Can you prosecute the company under those conditions?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It depends if it is being disposed of improperly. You say there is an agreement between a farmer in your area and an industry in Hamilton for the hauling and dumping of industrial liquid waste?

Mr. Gaunt: Right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That would be under waste management really but—

Mr. Caverly: But it is pollution of the ground water.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is my understanding that that hauler or that farmer should have a licence to haul that, and the licence should include permission to use that particular site for dumping.

Mr. Gaunt: It is my information, and I have not visited the site, but it is my understanding that he has no such licence.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: He is supposed to have. Under our new legislation, he cannot dispose either privately or publicly of a waste without permission.

Mr. Gaunt: As I understand it, the company in Hamilton has signed the contract with the farmer for \$5 a load.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Of course, I must say that it is better than dumping it in Lake Ontario.

Mr. Gaunt: Perhaps it is, but it is going into an unused gravel pit and it is hard to say where it ends up from there, because there is not too much distance between the existing unused gravel pit and the river.

The point I am making is that this situation could very well end up in river pollution. Whether it was through the actual filtering system or the ground for a period of time is really unimportant. The fact of the matter is that it could very well end up in the river.

My understanding is that it is sulphuric acid. I do not know whether it is really concentrated or not, or whether it is the unpure type so to speak. I gather it would be—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is it from one of the steel companies?

Mr. Gaunt: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is probably pickle liquor or something like that.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, pickle liquor, or whatever it is, in my view, it is quite a dangerous situation. I do not think that this kind of thing should be allowed to go on.

I realize that it is an income for the farmer, and I presume that is why he signed the contract in the first instance, but I think it is a very dangerous thing. It is not a load of wheat type of thing. They are coming in there every day and in some cases, I understand, they have two or three loads a day.

I think that is pretty potent stuff to be pouring into an unused gravel pit where the percolation is bound to be fairly rapid. It is open soil; it is gravelly and that stuff could seep pretty quickly. I think the commission should perhaps be looking at it. I come back to my original question, what is the legal status under those conditions? If in fact that material ended up in the river who would be prosecuted? Would it be the company or would it be the farmer?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The farmer.

Mr. Gaunt: It would be the farmer—so he is legally liable?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As far as the companies are concerned, they do not even want to know where it goes once it leaves their site. They pay that man so much money to take the stuff away from the plant site and they do not even want to know where it goes. As I have indicated under the previous vote dealing with waste management, we have got to get this facility going in Mississauga which will handle all this type of liquid waste.

But at the present time we have various areas where there is this type of open disposal or lagoon type of disposal. Some of them involve abandoned quarries, but those are all licensed, they are all inspected, and they are all approved by OWRC, by Health and by waste management.

That is why, from the facts that you have indicated here today, this is a form of illegal dumping.

Mr. Caverly: I will see him afterwards. I will look into that for him.

Mr. Gaunt: All right, I have already notified the commission about it, Mr. Caverly, so I hope that you do.

I am wondering how widespread this is. Is this a fairly common occurrence? I would have thought that there would have been provision for the company to actually handle this disposal waste within its own plant.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Some of them do, some of the refineries do. Some of them are able to do that. They use them either as byproducts or have some facilities. For example, Dow at Samia has facilities, I believe, on its own site. But they have not done enough of this. This is why we have to get into it now.

Mr. Caverly: The Steel Company of Canada has changed over most of its operations to hydrochloric acid which it can regenerate

and you get a complete recycling. The acid is used to pickle the steel, to clean it before it is rolled and the traditional type of acid pickling with sulphuric acid and then after it is used for a certain length of time and it is used up. It is still acid, but its effectiveness for pickling is reduced and this has been a problem.

It really comes under the legislation of waste management, but we work in close co-operation with the waste management branch because the pollution of underground would be the case, or surface waters, comes under us. There is a shared jurisdiction here. We work together on this.

Mr. Gaunt: I wonder, is this a fairly common practice or is it fairly isolated?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You have heard—last week when we were talking about subsurface disposal, old abandoned mine shafts, wells—that is one method used and, of course, there is proper surface disposal where they have incineration and proper treatment.

This is what we are hoping for—well, this is what will be in effect in Mississauga. It may be that particular site that you are referring to in Bruce county may be quite acceptable, but he should have a licence. That is all I am saying.

Mr. Gaunt: If it is acceptable, that is fine, but I would feel a lot better about it and I am sure the people around there would feel a lot better about it if they knew it was licensed and that someone in authority had said, "This is okay. No damage is being done."

Mr. Caverly: Mr. Caplice is aware of it, I guess from your letter, and we are following it up. But usually abandoned gravel pits make poor disposal sites because they are too porous.

Mr. Gaunt: Precisely. This is exactly right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a few questions about septic tanks. Quite frequently you hear complaints that certain ditches or drains are in a bad state of odour and there is always a rumour that someone's septic tank is tiled into or connected into the ditch.

If the septic tanks are functioning properly and if they are constructed properly, I suppose there is a certain distance that the tile

should end away from the ditch. If that is the case then there would not be any significant drainage into the ditch.

Do you have inspectors who examine these ditches when there are complaints? To examine all the septic tank operations?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The procedure now is that if somebody is building a home and installing a septic system they have to bring a plan to the local medical officer of health's office. That plan is inspected from the point of view of the size of the lot, the size of the home, the location of the home, the location of the tank in relation to the lot and the street.

Then there is a soil test taken, on-site inspection by one of the local medical officer of health inspectors. We have some quite elaborate septic tank regulations right now. They have been updated recently and they are quite elaborate as far as cover is concerned, as far as tile is concerned, as far as location is concerned, in relation to the type of soil and the size of the lot, the land area and the neighbourhood generally.

If it is in a subdivision, of course, the requirements are a little stricter. We assume that if those regulations are followed—and there are regulations to suit just about every particular situation—there should not be any problem. There should not be any odour, there should not be any contamination as far as the soil is concerned nor should there be any nuisance as far as neighbours are concerned.

This is very basically what goes on, depending, as I say, on the size of the house, it has a definite relationship to the size of that system because of the number of people who will depend on the system.

Mr. Burr: I have a drain in my riding that seems to be a mystery because nobody can find out what is causing the odour. I was just wondering whether—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is a malfunctioning system, I am sure.

Mr. Burr: Somebody's.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. They are only second best at the best of times.

Mr. Caverly: Mr. Sharpe would like to speak on this. I believe this is Sandwich-West—that one in that area and I think Mr. Sharpe used to be district engineer in that area and knows it quite well.

Mr. Sharpe: Mr. Chairman, for years it was the local practice down there to construct septic tank systems with septic tanks and underdrained field tile beds because of the nature of the heavy clay soil. We never really agreed with this practice because ultimately, although the material in the filler bed was filtered down through porous material, it was collected and discharged through the local drainage courses. I think it is an outstanding problem, a long standing problem in the area. I think really that is the reason for so much of it getting out into the local drainage courses.

Mr. Burr: They were improperly laid in the first place, long ago.

Mr. Sharpe: They were approved by the local medical officer of health and his staff, that was standard practice in that area.

Mr. Burr: According to modern standards they were improper.

Mr. Chairman, in our area there are two places, there is one field where the contents of septic tanks are placed and by the principle of putrefaction, I suppose you would call it, after four or five years you have some wonderful fertilizer. Then there is another field which is small but it has an asphalt surface to it. The owner there takes the sewage plant sludge and he treats it according to some method that he understands—it is on the principle of fermentation—and at the end of 12 weeks he has Simon pure humus and fertilizer. The health department tests it and finds no *E. coli*, salmonella or anything else.

This man claims he can use this same principle on any kind of garbage, any kind of organic matter, and it seems to me that he really has the answer to our problems. I was wondering whether under your SWEEP programme it might be possible to send some student who has knowledge in this area and interest in this area, who might make a study for you in co-operation with this man and find out what would be the necessary capacity to process the whole waste from the city of Windsor, that is not only the garbage but also the septic tank clean-out and the sewage sludge to find out how many acres he would need to process this and what would be the cost of a hammer mill if you included rubbish as well as the organic garbage; make a study during the summer and find out what would be the economics of this whole procedure. Would that be possible?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know just how much we could involve students. I would think probably that, rather than SWEEP for example, which is mainly involving conservation authorities—of which there is not one in your area—I would like to see OWRC take over this study involving students with their personnel because right now there is some criticism about the disposal of sludge and waste from treatment plants.

One or two areas that I am thinking of are provincially-owned and operated plants and there is criticism.

Mr. Burr: What kind of criticism?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That the waste is being taken from the plant by an independent contractor and, being disposed of on a farmer's field, is causing problems.

Mr. Burr: You mean odour problems?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mainly odour problems. There could be, I suppose, the possibility of some form of runoff or leaching, but we inspect these sites; we approve these sites and make sure that is not a possibility. But, with the reorganization of the department, this could involve waste from septic systems as well.

Mr. Burr: This has no odour problem. I was talking to the man last night as a matter of fact. It is his opinion that the problem you are having on these cattle farms that have a huge disposal problem, could be handled by his method in exactly the same way and that using his method there would be no odour problem. If you could adapt his system to that problem, I think it would be a great thing for the people who live in those areas.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think he could involve the city of Windsor if that is in that area because, as you know, with their new plants—they have two plants there; they are both owned by the city, are they not?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Yes.

Mr. Burr: He gets all of the sludge from the Little River plant, and that services about 30,000 to 35,000 people. He has taken the whole output since January 1 up to the present time and he has only about an acre or an acre and a half of land that he is using.

Mr. Caverly: Is he composting it?

Mr. Burr: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think that would be worthwhile looking at.

Mr. Caverly: Is he mixing garbage in with it, too?

Mr. Burr: No, he mixes it with wood chips and some sawdust, chiefly to aerate it. But he could handle garbage if he had it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Allan.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, if the minister remembers a year ago, he brought in a new programme whereby he provided a subsidy to assist some of the smaller towns and villages to install treatment plants to get good water. I am wondering how that programme was accepted. Have very many municipalities become involved? Are you getting requests from municipalities?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it has been quite successful. Really, there is no particular area of the province—Ailsa Craig, I think that is in your area; I think it is in Middlesex—it was a community that had been after pipe-water for years and years and just could not afford it. As a result of this programme they now have pipe-water being installed.

I understand, Mr. Chairman, the total amount of subsidy approved to date is \$43.7 million, so when you think of that going to small municipalities of 5,000 and under, that would include a lot of people; a lot of areas, I should say; a lot of communities. It looks as if it is being used by the municipalities.

Mr. Allan: There is another thought I had in mind, another query. We like the Grand River, and we think we see a great improvement in the water in the Grand River over the last few years. Do you have information as to whether that improvement does exist with the dams and the continual flow through the summer? It is a much nicer stream than it used to be. I wonder if you have any information in connection with that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only comment I want to make, Mr. Chairman, is I feel certain that the amount of works that have been spent by the province in co-operation with the various municipalities along that river, together with the operation of the dams with the conservation authority, is responsible basically for the improvement in that area.

There is no question that the authority has also made some effort to clean up some of

the debris along there. The authority last summer—as the hon. member knows it is one of the most active authorities in the province—had a programme involving students cleaning up debris along the river beds and the shores. This helped the appearance of that river.

Mr. Allan: There is a great demand for lots along the river. Of course, there is The Department of Municipal Affairs, which has something to say about that and they are not always successful in getting the building site they like. But the fact that it is so popular now for building sites, I think, is an indication of the benefit that comes from that improvement.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben. I am sorry—I will give it to your colleague.

Mr. Ruston: I thought I was here for a while. On the remarks in regard to pollution control equipment and installation of it; in the city of Windsor where they built their own—and I understand it is a city-operated pollution equipment plant—does the province take any part whatsoever in the financing of that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, as far as the new plant in Windsor is concerned, that is a city plant. I think it is around \$9 million; there was about a \$4 million CMHC loan there, but we did not finance it. Our main contribution to the construction of that plant was a big long horsewhip.

Mr. Ruston: There was about \$4 million in CMHC money available and I understand that if this is paid back within a certain length of time and if it is built by, I think, 1973, the city will be relieved of paying about \$1.25 million back to the federal government under the arrangements with the CHMC.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Ruston: The point I was getting at was that, in other words, the federal government did assist considerably in the building of the sewage works in the city of Windsor, and mostly they would take effect in the large cities. I take it by that then your operation—or you are installing them in smaller towns—are they financed strictly by the province or does CMHC also come into any of them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, they can be financed by CMHC. It can be either a municipal pro-

ject or a provincial project, depending on the amount of money available with CMHC. We try and involve the municipalities with a CMHC loan because of the forgivable feature of that loan, and this of course helps the rates. We attempt to do that in areas where there could be a problem regarding rates because of the construction costs, because of distances and things like this, and because of the urgency of that particular area we try and involve CMHC financing.

Last year, as I mentioned, we got \$25 million from CMHC. We worked it on a sort of cash flow basis anticipating that we would get at least that much this year and succeeding years. We were able, for example, to help the city of Hamilton build that \$22 or \$23 million plant. But that is to be a provincial plant, so we work with CMHC ourselves to build that plant, but the city will have the advantage of the forgivable portion of the loan, therefore that goes on the overall rate.

Mr. Ruston: Then as far as the ones you are putting through on a provincial plan go; where you have, well St. Clair Beach and Tecumseh and so forth, which is an agreement between the city of Windsor—I think that has been in the planning stage now for about four years, if I remember correctly. Is it about ready to go now, or what status are you now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are building the sewers there.

Mr. Caverly: The proposal for the municipality, that would be the financial proposal.

Mr. Ruston: The financial proposals are still with the municipality so we are still in some negotiation yet and they have not been finally approved?

Mr. Caverly: Once they accept that then we sign an agreement.

Mr. Ruston: Then it has to go back to the Ontario Municipal Board, of course?

Mr. Caverly: If there is some objection to the rating proposal.

Mr. Ruston: I think the one in Belle River which is going to include part of the township of Maidstone, that would be a complete provincial plan there, if I remember correctly?

Mr. Caverly: Mr. Cockburn is nodding his head.

Mr. Ruston: I think there were some changes in the plans in the first year too. They wanted some parkside to it. What status are we at now in that area?

Mr. P. Cockburn (Ontario Water Resources Commission): The revised proposals went out late last month and they should have it now for action by council.

Mr. Ruston: Have you run across this method of someone who presented a plan to the town of Essex for Stokely's? I do not put too much credence to some plans that come out by this method, but anyway I would suppose that you have heard of it or seen it before? I understand they will be presenting it to you.

W. H. Blumberg from Detroit where they have a \$63,000 plant that they said they could treat sewage out of Stokely's and the principle is old, he said you take activated carbon, store it, pass water over it and it draws organic material to it. I was just wondering if you have any comment on that at the present time?

Mr. Caplice: Mr. Chairman, a gentleman from Detroit was in our office with that proposal. He basically has a filter system using activated carbon to remove organic material from waste. He says that it can be applied to the canning industry but he is unable to point out to us any place in North America where he has successfully applied it. He is trying to interest Stokely Van Camp.

I believe he was rather secretive with us about the exact details about this. It is fine to pass material through carbon but then you have to, at one stage or another, restore your carbon bed, either replace the carbon totally or through some incineration process burn the organics off without destroying the carbon per se. These things look, on paper, to be very simple but they have proved to be, in certain waste streams, a good method of treatment but with canning waste, where you have a lot of your soluble or organic material ready to undergo degradation rather quickly as opposed to organic chemicals, you can get a real problem.

We said to him that we were willing to look at it but his basic selling job would have to be with Stokely Van Camp because he was claiming a great deal of savings for the industry and therefore the industry should be the one to look at it.

Mr. Ruston: I myself would be a little sceptical. I would want a really good founda-

tion for approval first from someone I felt, probably from here, or people in your department, because I may be a little too sceptical of high-pressure salesmen from the United States and I think you have to keep an eye on them, but that is beside the point.

In mentioning here a few moments ago about the septic tank systems, there are a lot of them in use—I think that the real intention of a good septic tank with a weeping bed will only work 75 per cent perfect in an area where the land is light. I am of the opinion that they can really never work too well in what we call heavy soils.

I happen to have one in my own yard in heavy soil, and where they run or have 375 feet of tile out and you can cut the grass twice a week over the 20 inch strip and in between you cut the grass every two weeks it is dry, so we know where it is. And then there is an overflow out into the drain and it does not look that bad coming out but it seems to create some odours after a while, especially as it lays. In the sandy soil I think possibly they work pretty good but I think there are problems.

Do you people have any criteria as to the cleaning out of septic tanks and so forth that comes actually under municipal bylaws? Do you have any experience or any research as to how often these things really should be cleaned out to work at their very best?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Once every two years.

Mr. T. P. Reid: It depends on how—

Mr. Ruston: In regard to a little village up in central Ontario, Erin village, population 1,400. I think it is in Haldimand—

Mr. T. P. Reid: The member for Wellington-Dufferin's (Mr. Root's) riding, I believe.

Mr. Ruston: Highway 24. I have had some communication with people in that area with regard to pollution and so forth going from the shops and buildings and a dairy that backs up into the Credit River. Some people there seem to think that there is quite a problem there with pollution from septic tanks also in a small lake district where there are house trailers and they are served by septic tanks as well. Is there any solution going in there as far as treatment plants? It is a small population, I realize, of 1,400 but is it concentrated enough to put in treatment facilities?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member is quite aware, the vice-chairman of OWRC happens to be from this area and therefore he was

aware of the situation regarding septic systems. The commission attempted to carry out a survey with the idea of a sewer system for that community. I do not know if we got to the point where we ever decided what rates would be, or the cost would be, but in any event apparently the local council had indicated that because of the possible cost of a sewage treatment plant and probably municipal water facilities at the same time, that they would on their own make an effort to correct faulty septic tanks—and this is what they are doing at the present time. The OWRC is keeping a watch on that, particularly as to the effluent getting into the Credit River; and if there are any problems, in spite of the efforts to correct individual septic tanks, it may be that we may have to go in there and provide proper municipal sewage treatment.

Mr. Caverly: If I could just add, this is an area that there was a debate or a discussion on earlier today about whether could we attack this on an individual basis and this is one place where we think we can. It is gravelly, good soil in most of the area. Now, it depends on how successful they are.

Mr. Ruston: Is it correct to say that a lot of this has to be corrected and a lot of the places may just have poor systems or older systems that are not quite up to very high standards?

Mr. Caverly: Right. It needs some upgrading.

Mr. Ruston: That is all for now, I guess.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Chairman, could the minister tell me please how many upstream municipalities are still dumping their sanitary wastes into the Don River?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean without treatment?

Mr. Ben: Without treatment. Where is all this pollution that infests the Don coming from?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Caverly can correct me, but I think one of the problems is overflowing of existing treatment plants. Is that not right?

Mr. Caverly: I think what you are referring to is the report just recently put out on the Don and—I am going to generalize—there are some areas in East York and in Scarborough where there are combined sewer over-

flows in times of storms. This is a problem that has to be corrected. It is a big problem around the province—or anywhere.

There are also illegal discharges to storm sewers, which has been a particularly bad problem in the Metro area. It is not so much a problem of the Metro people wanting to correct it but trying to find it in the maze of sewers. It is coming out of a storm sewer, but then to get back up through several miles of sewer to find out what garage actually dumped the stuff is a real problem.

Mr. Ben: Are you contemplating any programme of assistance to the city of Toronto to separate its sewers?

Mr. Caverly: The city of Toronto at the present time is on a 20-year programme of combined sewer separations and they are doing about \$6 million a year of this sort of work. York township is on a programme. I have not got information about East York or Scarborough.

Mr. Ben: Yes, but if we continue this programme for 20 years at the particular rate that you mention, we should have approximately one-third of the combined sewers separated. What about the other two-thirds?

Mr. Caverly: This is a problem. I do not know whether the minister wants to speak more on it, but this is one of the areas that is concerning not only the people on our side of the border, but when I talk to our counterparts in Detroit, Chicago and Cleveland, these combined sewers are a problem because it is a very expensive programme to undertake. Reference is made to it in the IJC report.

The minister indicated in his budget speech that we are going to put some money in engineering studies in the most critical areas to find what is the best method, because you cannot take a blanket sort of approach to it. It depends on the local municipalities, whether you go strictly into separation of the two sewers and putting in new ones, whether you put in holding tanks where the combined sewer overflow is held—Detroit has done this—and then pumped back into the system and down for treatment after the storm is over.

Mr. Ben: Does it work?

Mr. Caverly: It works. Availability of land is one of the problems there. It is basic to this. There are about four different ways that you can attack this programme, and I think each municipality has to work out what is best for it.

Mr. Ben: All right. Let us say that we cannot do it overnight. You talk about a 20-year programme. We admit that if we go into this 20-year programme, we would do approximately one-third of the combined sewers. When one considers the inflation of the dollar—and I say inflation of the dollar; the rising cost of labour inflates the dollar or causes it to lose value—we will not even get a third done and we are still dumping sewage into the lake.

We talk about cleaning it up, but we are on our second generation of children who have never had the pleasure of swimming in Lake Ontario, west of Ashbridge's Bay. Surely if we are giving grants to smaller communities to put in sewer systems or to do away with their septic tank systems, surely we can do something for the city.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is because they cannot afford them.

Mr. Ben: Well, how can we afford \$300 million?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, but I think probably that under our present arrangement of financing, Toronto can arrange to start a programme of separating their sewers.

Mr. Ben: We have a 20-year programme of \$6 million a year.

Mr. Caverly: This is roughly what the city is putting in.

Mr. Ben: Relatively speaking, considering the total cost is \$300 million and it is implemented with dispatch, it is peanuts.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think, though, even with this programme of separating sewers, the answer is the plan for a collector system, as the hon. member knows, from west to east for many of the communities on the upper Don and the upper Humber. In other words, there is no question that both of these rivers are overloaded at the present time. With the fantastic growth in north Toronto, these plants that we build in relation to the flow or the ability for these rivers to assimilate the effluent that is being dumped into these rivers from these plants are just not sufficient in light of the growth that has taken place. So the only answer is—

Mr. Ben: The Humber is pretty well controlled, Mr. Minister. Far be it from me to give credit to the government—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The Don is worse.

Mr. Ben: —but there has been a remarkable transformation in the Humber and, if I recall correctly, the last thing I did on the Metro council was to vote to extend the sewers up to Steeles Avenue so Woodbridge could connect with the sewers rather than put up a sewage disposal plant on the bank.

Mr. Caverly: A very good move.

Mr. Ben: It was a good move, and the Humber is relatively clean. It freezes—and every time I say that, people laugh like hell when I say it freezes. Well, for those uninitiated, there was a time when it did not freeze in the winter, no matter how cold it was.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): I know a place in northern Ontario that still does not freeze.

Mr. Caverly: That is your little old Wabigoon.

Mr. Ben: I think you understand, but most people laugh when I say that the Humber is freezing now.

But surely somebody must be dumping raw sewage into the Humber, because it is the same state or same consistency of pollution: dry spells or rainy spells, whether there is an overflow or not, it is polluting. If the pollution is caused only by the overflow from the combined sewers during times of heavy rains, one would expect during dry spells in July or August, when we have not had any rain for two, three or four weeks or we have had light rain, that the river would be running relatively clean. But it is not so. It always runs polluted. It always runs filthy. It always runs like an open sewer. Now, which municipalities are you permitting to dump this raw sewage into it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am just saying that there are a number of communities that have maximum capacity at their sewage treatment plants. I think Vaughan is one; Richmond Hill and Markham are two more.

Mr. Ben: Vaughan? Vaughan would be on the Humber, would it not?

Mr. Caverly: No, west branch of the Don.

Mr. Ben: West branch of the Don. And Markham is growing at a terrific rate. But are they not building any secondary sewage treatment plants up there?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They all have secondary treatment plants. All I am saying is that

they are pretty well at maximum capacity under normal circumstances. Occasionally, because of overloading, or storms, or what have you, everything is not being properly treated. That is why the answer is not more treatment plants up there, because of the relatively low flow of the Don in that area, but this collector system.

I think when this collector system is built and put into effect where all the sewage from that area is taken over to one large plant in Pickering, that you will see a tremendous difference in the Don in this lower part of the city.

Mr. Ben: When can we anticipate seeing that glorious day?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are hoping to get—Eh?

Mr. Ben: When can we look forward to seeing that glorious day?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are hoping that a start will be made on that this year.

Mr. Ben: You are hoping to start it? And how long will it take after you start it?

Mr. Caverly: Three years.

Mr. Ben: Three years?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In the meantime we have to control development up there.

Mr. Ben: So can we say that in five years we can fish in the Don? Or boat on the Don?

Mr. Caverly: See, with the Humber, we have taken all the effluent out—Bolton is the only upstream plant left. And this is what we want to do on the Don, because those streams are small, and—well, it is just self-evident.

Mr. Ben: Speaking of the Don, Mr. Minister, you will recall a couple of years ago I reported to you some pollution of the Humber by acid, which killed the fish. You were not able to pinpoint the exact source of this acid, but I think you did get down to five possible sources. At that time you spoke of restocking the river.

On Saturday, I was asked by my youngster to take him fishing on the Humber to catch those salmon I was telling him about. Where would I take him?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I thought you were going to say you caught one. I thought you were going to say, "I got a coho salmon."

Mr. Ben: Have you had it stocked with coho salmon?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know if they ever got up there or not.

Mr. Sharpe: They were introduced into the Humber and the Credit in 1969, and now they run in the fall of the year.

Mr. Ben: But in 1969 they were killed by this acid that got into the stream.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There was one seen going by Trois Rivières about a month ago.

Mr. Ben: Which way? Belly up or belly down?

Mr. Sharpe: That acid spill took place in 1969. I think there has been corrective action taken by Metropolitan Toronto people, with our help.

But the coho run was on last September, you may recall, and it was quite successful, in some of these streams. I think the coho is suffering from a problem other than pollution—the lamprey eel.

Mr. Ben: The lamprey eel? So you cannot tell me just when they last stocked the Humber, whether it was after this acid got into it?

Mr. Sharpe: It was stocked again.

Mr. Ben: It was stocked again, was it?

Now just to switch our attention back to the Don. What do you think of this programme of aerating the water through a system of fountains? Will it do any good?

Mr. Caverly: It probably would raise the amount of dissolved oxygen. It would not do any harm; they use this. I have seen them put in little rocks with netting around to form little weirs. This has been adopted.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, we have had a lot of controversy about access to water being restricted by purchase of abutting land. The biggest controversy was with reference to the Erie parkland—the area along Lake Erie.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I know where you mean—near Port Colborne, was it not? Crystal Beach?

Mr. Ben: Crystal Beach—that is the place. The Department of Lands and Forests has initiated a programme whereby henceforth Crown land will not be sold, but will be leased for cottage sites.

Has your department, Ontario Water Resources and the conservation authority given any consideration to purchasing—reserving to begin with, and then purchasing or repurchasing—rights of way along the major river banks to create hiking trails from the mouth to the source?

I do not mean every little stream, Mr. Minister, but streams like the Humber, for example, the Don, the Thames, and the Grand and the Credit, and other rivers—the Trent—major rivers where at the present time the shores are owned by abutting owners, almost from the mouth to the source. You will notice I said purchasing rights of way—I am not talking about purchasing the land outright, but just a right of way—or just decreeing that henceforth there will be a right of way—not 66 feet but 20 feet along the river bank from the highwater mark, or something of that nature. So that we will be able to, in the future, travel along these rivers for hikes and outings.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, but in a lot of these areas, where there are conservation areas particularly, the authorities are looking at footpaths or rights of way to connect the various areas. In other words, you will have a conservation area then you will have a private area, maybe a mile, or maybe 500 or 600 feet, that is owned privately between the conservation areas, particularly along waterways such as we have mentioned—the Trent and other rivers.

So there is going to be a policy, as far as our branch is concerned, whereby we will help subsidize authorities to purchase these rights of way.

Mr. Ben: There is such a programme?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, right now. It is really an extension of the Bruce Trail and the Escarpment—the same type of policy where you have particularly popular area for hiking. The authorities can enter into an agreement, either by way of purchase or by way of lease, for footpaths, for rights of way, and enable continuous use of a conservation area.

This same thing can be done in connecting conservation areas, if it is suitable. In other words if you get adjoining areas, like the Credit and the Halton for example. They are almost side by side except maybe for a few hundred acres of private land.

Mr. Ben: I agree, Mr. Minister, but are you going to do it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It may not satisfy the hon. member, but the policy is now we tell the local authorities: "Look, if you have a request in your area for these easements or rights of way, if this is part of an improved programme for the use of your conservation areas, make application to us, either by way of an agreement, by way of lease, or by way of purchase and we will help you finance it."

That is the arrangement now. I think that is better than the province going in and sort of buying it up.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, this is a sort of—I will not call it hypothetical question, but you may think that is out of your bailiwick.

At the present time The Department of Lands and Forests, I believe, is responsible for setting up camp sites in provincial parks and supplying the services like washrooms, shower rooms, and so on. With all due respect to anything you may say to the contrary I think our particular programme in Ontario is very backward compared to that of most of the other provinces.

Do you think that perhaps you should take this programme over as part of a conservation programme and your department supply washrooms, laundry, shower facilities, and the like to the provincial parks as part of the conservation programme?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If there is some agreement that Lands and Forests want to give this up and we get sufficient money in our budget to do it, fine. But are you saying that the facilities in our provincial parks are not adequate?

Mr. Ben: Totally inadequate.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are they?

Mr. T. P. Reid: They are.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is it because of the pit privies or the things that go bump in the night, or—

Mr. Ben: I think that the Province of Ontario is afraid to antagonize the tourist operators and afraid to create any kind of facilities that may be looked upon as being in competition with them or giving something that the tourist operators charge for.

I think that this is the aspect that governs the location and the extent of these particular sites. I should like to see it taken out of their hands and given to somebody who at the present time has got a little gumption—and so far you still maintain it. You are losing it,

young fellow, but you still have got a little bit of it left. I am glad to see that you are prepared to take it over.

I am getting toward the end of my questions. At one time, you were giving subsidies for the creation of ponds. I understand that you now—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That was agriculture, was it not? Farm ponds?

Mr. Ben: These ponds on farms—somebody was giving subsidies for those. Who was giving them?

Mr. Gaunt: They still are.

Mr. Ben: The Department of Agriculture and Food? I am happy to hear that. Okay, you got off easy there. I have two more questions.

In the city of Toronto, and I imagine in most municipalities, they have bylaws which oblige the owner abutting a sidewalk to remove the snow or keep it clean—to remove the snow within four hours after a snowfall in the city of Toronto; other municipalities may have other time limits. Maybe they do not even have such bylaws.

At any rate, there is a streets bylaw which makes the abutting owner responsible for the upkeep, from an aesthetic point of view, of the roadway alongside his property. It strikes me that we do not have a similar bylaw which obligates an owner abutting a stream or river to exercise the same responsibility toward what, in many cases, is the equivalent of a roadway or sidewalk on his property. In Lambton Mills, which is part of Etobicoke and is called Lambton Mills or Lambton Falls—it is just as you cross the Humber River going along the Dundas Highway—you are driving westward and you look to the north-west. You can see the riverside of a lumberyard which runs on Dundas and for years I think, they have had the bad habit of casting old pieces of wood and planking over the edge of the river. You can see it sliding or making its way down to the water.

I say this should be forbidden and punished. I think somebody from Water Resources or the conservation authority should go over there and grab those lumber-yard people by the scruff of the neck and make them take that lumber and all that discarded wood back to where it belongs, and sent it to the incinerator or bury it, but not throw it down our river.

Furthermore, I think there should be some kind of a law which would compel owners

abutting streams and rivers to clean up their side of the river once a week, once a month, or whatever the case may be, as part of a conservation effort and the maintaining of pure water. How about that?

Mr. Rollins: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I sit here and listen to some of these arguments put forth on the estimates. Certainly I do not agree and I challenge the statement; to say to owners of certain areas that non-residents are going to come in and tell owners of property in rural areas or what have you what they have to do, is far beyond the call of duty in rural areas. Talking about Lands and Forests parks—

Mr. T. P. Reid: There is no point of order here, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rollins: There are statements being made here that are not substantiated. You cannot substantiate your statements.

Mr. Ben: I am quite willing for the hon. gentleman—

Mr. T. P. Reid: You have not quite become the minister yet!

Mr. Chairman, let us have a little order here.

Mr. Ben: I am quite willing for the hon. and distinguished gentleman later to seek the eye of the Chair and rebut what I am suggesting.

If the hon. minister feels that abutting land owners, because they are in a rural area, should have no obligation for the purity of the water that passes through their lands, let him get up and say that he does not believe that the rural people have any obligation to downstream owners or people who use the water downstream. But let me finish with the minister and then he can make a statement. At least his position is recorded. Yes, is the minister going to answer?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I just might say to the hon. member for Hastings that the hon. member for Humber was talking about a mill, I believe, in his own riding so it is only quasi-rural, really.

Mr. Rollins: That is over and above the farm pond he was mentioning about two minutes ago that did not come under the area.

Mr. Ben: It is on the banks of a mighty stream called the Humber.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right. So you know it is about as rural as—

Mr. Ben: It is not a lumber mill; it is a lumber yard, but the minister may go ahead.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I agree with you; this is a situation in many parts of the province where you have little mills located on the side of a stream for various reasons. It might be because they want to send their logs down it. In the old days they sent their logs downstream or they sent even their lumber downstream and therefore they had to be located in that particular area. In the meantime, they had developed these great sawdust piles and debris piles—cuttings and things like that—that have flowed over the banks. I suppose that this material can be classified as pollution under our legislation; it is bark and cuttings and things like that, the same as you have in a large sawmill or paper mill up north.

Really, I feel that initially this is the responsibility of your local conservation authority. They have concern for the watershed, for the river bank, generally for the streams that run through their particular conservation area. Even if it means just reporting it to us so that we can take action, the necessity, really, of managing that type of a stream or an area from the point of view of the users along there—I would like to see the conservation authorities doing something about cleaning up, or ordering those people to clean up, which authority they have. I suppose we could lay a charge against that particular mill for dumping into that river. Maybe this is the answer.

Mr. Ben: Perhaps what caused the hon. member for Hastings to jump so hastily was the fact that I did not make myself clear. I was speaking only of the rivers in southern Ontario, along whose banks they no longer carry out lumbering operations, down whose waters they no longer float—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is an abandoned mill?

Mr. Ben: Yes; they no longer float logs to the mill. Rivers are now more for water supply and recreation than they are for commerce or industry. Even though I stand in fear of being ruled out of order by the Chairman, I should point out that your department is charged with the total responsibility of preventing waste and water pollution.

I should think that all these conservation authorities look at this pile of rubble as a

Mount Sinai from whence come all the logs. What they would like to see is direction come from Queen's Park as to how they can control this. I suggest that there should be a law which would make the abutting owners along certain specified rivers and streams—and so that my hon. friend, the member for Hastings, will not get apoplexy or whatever it is, I am willing to specify the streams that are no longer used for commerce and industry—which would make it compulsory for the abutting owner to be responsible for the cleanliness of the river bank along his land.

Perhaps the minister might give consideration to passing laws which would make it compulsory for all abutting owners along highways to clean the roadway along their frontage and not sweep the dirt into the gutters, which is a very bad and filthy habit, but perhaps pick up the sweepings and put them in a can. Those sweepings eventually find their way into the storm sewers and out into the lake, and they are pollution.

This is what I had in mind. I hope that you will give consideration to passing some kind of a law to keep these streams clean. It is a small job for the man to do once a week or once a month. They would rejuvenate all these streams and bring them back perhaps to what the good Lord intended them to be. You would save the taxpayers a lot of money. Surely I think we have some responsibility to keep our own environment clean.

My last question deals with an article I saw—I believe it was in Science Digest. The fellow had invented or discovered a new type of brick which he made from mud taken from the bottom of these lakes and streams. It is supposed to have so much foreign substance in there that it makes a better brick. It is lighter; it can be handled easier and retains heat better. Somebody suggested that perhaps this would be the way to clean up the bottom of Lake Erie, to take up this layer of mud that they have for the manufacture of this brick. Have any of the people here seen that article and is there any discussion on it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Using ordinary river bottom mud?

Mr. Ben: It is not only river bottom mud; evidently it makes excellent bricks because of all the sediment that has washed into the foreign substances.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It must be rice. Rice is binding.

Mr. Ben: No, it is not rice. It is a mixture of mud. If none of the gentlemen has read it, I think I still have that issue at home. I would be very happy to bring it down and show it to you. Evidently this may be the way of getting rid of all that sediment at the bottom of Lake Erie, that is, taking it up and turning it into brick and building substances. Okay, you may rest.

Mr. Chairman: Do the estimates of the Ontario Water Resources Commission carry?

Mr. T. P. Reid: No. I have a few words just before that. I would just like—we will keep it going at least until 5:55 p.m. I would like to say a few words about mercury pollution.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is Lands and Forests.

Mr. T. P. Reid: No, that is not Lands and Forests. It is the Minister of Energy and Resources Management in this particular aspect.

I have a number of things I would like to say, but perhaps we could start by talking about the proposed dredging of the St. Clair River and the water pollution problems there. My information via Mr. Norvald Fimreite, who supposedly is one of the world's leading experts, is that the expertise is not available to dredge these mercury polluted waters. It could be dangerous. I ask the minister on what basis he has made this announcement and, secondly, can he point to other jurisdictions where the beds of rivers or lakes have actually been dredged to try to get the mercury out of the water?

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. The dredging of the St. Clair is not for the purpose of removing the mercury. It is for the purpose of—

Mr. T. P. Reid: You are not the minister either.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Let him finish that part.

Mr. Burr: —for the purpose of navigation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Actually, the dredging is going on now.

Mr. Burr: Yes, and the mercury is a problem secondary to the dredging. Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The dredging that is going on now is strictly for navigation.

Mr. Burr: Yes, but they are afraid that they may stir up the mercury.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is true.

Mr. Burr: Is that what the hon. member for Rainy River is talking about?

Mr. T. P. Reid: No. I am talking about the announcement the minister made in regard to the suing of Dow Chemical and the subsequent dredging at some point in time of the St. Clair River, and possibly of the English River system in northwestern Ontario.

Mr. Martel: He has been calling for clarification—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What did you want to know?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Maybe you have got mercury in your ears or something. I will repeat it again.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, Mr. Chairman, as the hon. member knows, this has been, I think, repeated over and over again in the House. As a result of our investigations last year, and particularly our investigations with certain Swedish experts, we looked into the whole matter of reclamation of areas where there is a substantial amount of mercury in bottom muds, for example, like the St. Clair, and the Wabigoon and, what is the lake up near Dryden?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Did you say Wabigoon?

An hon. member: Clay Lake.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Clay Lake.

Mr. T. P. Reid: What was the other one? What was that supposed to be?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Wabigoon.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Loaded with mercury.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes.

Mr. Martel: Who put it there?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Your brother-in-law!

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have studied the possibility of reclamation and whatever methods can be used to eliminate the source of mercury in these rivers. The information we have is that it is quite possible, quite feasible and quite practical to undergo certain reclamation methods which can be done safely and effectively and assist the situation in a particular lake such as St. Clair or Clay.

Mr. T. P. Reid: This is from the Swedish experts. By practically, you mean cheap?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no. I do not mean cheap. You had better use the word "safe" then rather than "practical."

This is partly as a result of our information from the Swedes and partly from our own investigations in Canada and with US people.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right, the member who interrupted there raises a good point. Is there any danger from the current dredging of the St. Clair, stirring up the mercury or making the situation more—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is always a possibility. The dredging going on now would be of great help as far as knowing just what possible effect it would have on the mercury that is now at the bottom of the lake or river, and whether or not it could have any side effects on the other streams or the fish that may be farther downstream.

This is something that particular dredging that is going on now will be—

Mr. T. P. Reid: You are watching the situation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. But do not forget that the dredging is only one method of reclamation. This is only one of the methods that can be used.

Mr. Burr: Has dredging not started?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am not sure, but it is my understanding that there is a plan to go ahead and dredge there. Whether or not it has started I do not now. You indicated that it had, so that is why I am assuming it had.

Mr. Burr: No, no, the plans have been announced.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I see.

Mr. Burr: But it has to have the OWRC's approval, does it not?

Mr. Caverly: For the disposal of it.

Mr. Burr: If they cannot dispose of it anywhere, they cannot start the dredging?

Mr. T. P. Reid: They have not started the dredging yet. The minister informs me they are watching it, monitoring it already which is—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no, I am just saying that anything that goes on there, as far as that particular experiment is concerned—

which incidentally is being carried out, I would assume, by federal authorities—will involve the OWRC.

Mr. T. P. Reid: We have had discussion before in the Legislature about the feasibility of doing it, I suppose.

I just have a few more questions to the minister.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only thing that amuses me is why the Liberal Party and some of its pollution critics seem to feel they have to be apologists for Dow Chemical.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Now who is being an apologist—and how did they get into this conversation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, you have been and the member for Sarnia has been.

Mr. T. P. Reid: In what way now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And a number of other members, the member for Downsview particularly.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Oh come now, he has said nothing the whole—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are questioning the whole idea of this lawsuit because there is no proven way of getting rid of the mercury at the bottom of the lake and the hon. member should know that is not our responsibility. It is the responsibility of the people who put it there.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is certainly a new edge to the question and that certainly is something new altogether, I am sure, to all in the Legislature. Now the minister has deliberately provoked me and we will go into this a great deal.

First of all, when we are talking about apologists, I would rather be an apologist—and I say that there is no substance in that charge by the minister—than a hypocrite and that is what I have to call the minister in this regard.

Now you have come out and you have made statements about mercury pollution in this area and you have made statements that you know have absolutely no meaning and no basis in fact and are nothing but pure window-dressing in this situation. I refer to your so-called suit against Dow Chemical, I refer to the—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: See what I mean, "so-called suit."

Mr. T. P. Reid: I refer to the order—the ministerial order—in which you say that they been told to cease and desist in certain practices, when you knew full well that a full year before they had ceased and desisted, the mercury escaping from the plant had been lowered almost to the zero level.

Yet a year later you announce with a great deal of fanfare that the white minister leading the charge on his white horse has come out and said, “Boy this is what we are doing—we are really leading the charge against pollution in this province.” The minister is really hypocritical when he charges anybody else of playing politics or being an apologist for somebody or other.

The member for Sarnia on numerous occasions has said that he is no apologist and none of the words he has spoken could certainly indicate that to the minister. But the minister and the government stand and they come up with a great lawsuit that they know is going to be tied up in the courts for probably the next 10 years at least.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No such thing. No such thing.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, where is the case now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The case is in the Supreme Court.

Mr. Ruston: Have you made any presentation yet?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is in the Supreme Court right now, and the parties are joined, they have filed their pleadings, there have been examinations for discoveries, I would imagine that a court date will be set at any time. It is taking the normal process of any type of civil litigation of this sort.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right. And what does the minister in all honesty believe is going to be the operative time in which this case will come to a final conclusion? After appeals and counter appeals and so on?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not want to anticipate what is going to happen as far as appeals are concerned. But certainly this case as has now started should be completed within a year.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): In this court? In this particular court?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not want to anticipate or try to guess as far as that is concerned.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Does the dredging depend on the outcome of this court case?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Before you get onto another point, you are talking about the loss of mercury and you were completely wrong about that. It just happened after our ministerial order the company was still losing up to a pound a day. Granted this is a substantial reduction from 40 pounds a day which they were losing just before our ministerial order, but still they are losing some mercury. We want them to stop, completely stop and we want them to decide how it is to be done. That is why that is part of this action.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Is the dredging of the St. Clair dependent upon this lawsuit?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not to my knowledge.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How much is it going to cost?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are asking for a mandatory order for the company to dredge or reclaim that part of the river that they were responsible for contaminating or in the alternative, I believe \$10 million, or such other order as the court may make.

Mr. T. P. Reid: So nothing will happen until this lawsuit is finished, in other words?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean there will be no dredging?

Mr. T. P. Reid: There will be no dredging, the fishermen will have to hang on by their nails.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Now you are worried about the fishermen. I am glad that as a representative of the Liberal Party you are worried about fishermen.

Mr. Burr: Are you not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Certainly I am. That is why we have a programme right now—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Do not give me that programme.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Their livelihood has been destroyed and you say you will lend them money so they can fish?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We had a programme last year, jointly with the federal government, to provide loans for those fishermen who suffered loss as a result of mercury contamination. The

federal government now has withdrawn from that programme—they are not going to give a nickel toward it—so we are upping our share from 50 to 100 per cent. That programme will continue.

Mr. Martel: The member for Brantford (Mr. Makarchuk) has been raising this issue with your colleague now for the past five weeks and has got nowhere.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you saying that there are some fishermen who have not got their money?

Mr. Martel: According to the member for Brantford in his question in the House.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If I can help, as far as that particular fisherman or fishermen are concerned, I will be happy to, but that programme is in effect. It was announced by the Minister of Lands and Forests.

Mr. Martel: I will get the member for Brantford to see you about it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In all fairness, there is a question of qualifying as a commercial fisherman. That is the programme.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to quote from the *Globe and Mail*—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Quote from the *Tely*, it was—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well the *Telegram*—talk about apologists for the government.

This is an editorial in 1970 in the *Globe and Mail*. It is an editorial about the mercury situation and I repeat, in case the minister did not see; he probably just reads the *Telegram*. That is probably why he does not know what is going on.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I read the editorial.

Mr. T. P. Reid: The *Globe* editorial says:

Energy and Resources Management Minister George Kerr ordered the Dow plant to stop its discharge at Sarnia by April 15, one day after the company announced the discharge has already been brought to zero. If the government can be outrun by a polluter, can it possibly be pressing strongly enough?

That is almost one year ago.

Then a few months ago the minister came along again with his ministerial order. We asked you before, when this whole question broke over a year ago, where was OWRC,

where was the minister, when they had this information to begin with, supposedly? And now the minister makes a great how-d'ye-do, a great press conference and he says: "Boy, we are really giving it to these companies. We are really going to do something."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That was a press conference in 1970, you say?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Where we talked about a ministerial order?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What about it?

Mr. T. P. Reid: I am just quoting from the *Globe and Mail*, not that they are that much more accurate than the *Telegram*.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I want to know what the purpose of your quote is? I am trying to tie it in, to wade through the political propaganda and trying to see the point you are trying to make.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Ooh, you are in a great mood today. The point is simply this: that it is my contention that you and the OWRC have been playing footsy with Dow Chemical all along on this business.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh!

Mr. T. P. Reid: You have been making statements and you say you are going to require them to do this, you are going to require them to do that, pertaining to the discharge of mercury from their plant.

For over a year we have heard Dow Chemical saying, "We have reduced it to zero."

The next day the minister says, "They are now under ministerial order," after they have already stopped the process, I believe, and one thing—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Dow Chemical has not reduced it to zero, that is one of the reasons why the ministerial order was issued a year ago.

The ministerial order was issued, and it was as a result of the issuing of the ministerial order and certain work that had been done in the plant that Dow reduced it from approximately 40 pounds per day to around one pound per day or less.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How long did that take?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would say it was about July of last year when we decided that it was down substantially. A couple of months after the order went into effect they accomplished that reduction. It still is not enough. That is why there happened to be included a claim for complete elimination in that lawsuit—

Mr. T. P. Reid: I think the whole thing is a farce.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Okay, next subject.

Mr. Burr: Could I ask about the Dow suit? Did the Attorney General's department recommend the suit?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Burr: They recommended it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, the suit is recommended really as a result of counsel being involved—both counsel being involved and hired for the purpose of giving information and giving advice and making recommendations together with the law officers of OWRC—I am sorry, of the Attorney General's department—a counsel of OWRC; it involved a lot of people. The important thing is that the timing, which seems to be so suspect, is the result of some six or seven months of research and work. It was only then that it was decided that there were grounds for a suit of this size and the action was taken.

Mr. Burr: Was the federal government invited to participate?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, the federal government were kept informed and asked as to their stand—would they be willing either to join in in a suit like this or go into it individually, or just what would be their stand on a situation like this. They had not gone so far as we did as to accumulate the evidence and the impression I got from the federal people was that they were not prepared at that time. They were quite willing to assist us in every way possible, to use facilities of their agencies such as their fisheries department, The Department of Public Works, the Canada Centre for Inland Waters, their research people.

They were prepared to assist us in every way and the only thing is I could not get a commitment, really, from them that they would, in effect, be a joint plaintiff. In view of the information we had, assuming their full co-operation for the prosecution of the case, it was not that important that we both be named as parties in the action.

Mr. Burr: Why did you not just pass legislation, new legislation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: New legislation? I do not see how we could pass new legislation, unless we made it retroactive, that would give us damages for, or compensation for, the damages that had occurred as a result of this loss of mercury over a period of time.

Mr. Ruston: Regarding this claim you have here for which you have just filed your suit, are you claiming the damage for the Province of Ontario, but not in effect claiming for the fishermen affected?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It is a rather complicated thing. It is a civil suit involving tort action. One of the things that the law officers of the Crown indicated was that the fishermen would not have a cause of action in a civil action such as this kind in tort. We, I believe, are suing on the basis that we own the fishery—the province, the Crown, owns the fisheries, you see—and that the fisherman really has not any right in that particular resource or property until the fish are caught.

I must say, as the hon. member for Lakeshore will tell you, that a tort action is not like an action under a statute; it is not all that certain.

Mr. Burr: The necessity is to prove that the fish have been harmed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are hoping to do that, yes. That is part of the action. I would think that would be almost an essential thing that the action of banning the sale of fish from those waters, particularly for export, was a reasonable step and a justifiable step in view of the information we have as to the degree of contamination.

Mr. Burr: But the fish themselves do not appear to have been harmed, as fish.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no. It is the result of the contamination of the fish—

Mr. Burr: It has harmed the fishermen.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right, it has harmed the fishermen, it has harmed the fish as far as being a salable product.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Lawlor.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): I do not want to say very much on this for fear of prejudicing—you know. But I think I will add a word or two.

I find it, Mr. Chairman, questionable and even disturbing that the federal government did not see fit to join in this proceeding because of constitutional reasons and the arguments which no doubt will be used in the course of those proceedings touching navigable waters, particularly navigable waters which are intra countries. They just might slip out of the situation on the basis of the federal government's failure. That is as much as I want to say about that.

The action, as I understand it, is a novel type of action, I think you will agree. They are trying to break ground in tort law, which is rather obtuse law; its ground does not break easily. You are trying to set it under two heads, one on trespass, which is a tricky thing—saying that they trespassed upon your territory by so infringing upon the beds of these particular navigable waters—and secondly, a nuisance. It is not couched as a nuisance? Nuisance is the most nebulous—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think nuisance is involved in there.

Dr. H. Landis (Ontario Water Resources Commission) There are four basics—not two, four.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Apparently the navigable feature in constitutional law does not have anything to do with our lawsuit, I would assume because of the grounds upon which we are claiming—that is damage to the fishery—and, of course, the actual statement of claim, the order to clean it up, the reclamation order and the injunction.

Mr. Lawlor: I just want to be on the record saying that—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This will be an argument, there is no question. Without, as you say, Mr. Lawlor, getting too involved in it, I understand that this is one of the features of the defence.

Mr. Lawlor: I am prepared to go this far. I am saying that Dow seems to me to stand a fair measure of possibility of success in this particular action with respect to both the constitutional issue on one side of the fence and to the background of natural mercury. To try to segregate out artificial contaminants over against the natural background is going to be a job which takes some kind of wizardry and, therefore, we do find in the opposition a fair measure of

disesteem with respect to the proceedings as you have taken them, and I think quite justifiably so—first of all, because it is sub judice and we should not even be talking about it at the moment.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is right.

Mr. Lawlor: Secondly, because of the delay factors in here, it does appear to be a facade, a smokescreen or mercury screen, behind which you can very well hide. We rather suspect the motivation in the situation. We felt you should have moved against Dow more directly.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What would you suggest? You call it a smokescreen. What other type of legislation would you suggest?

Mr. Lawlor: You are not averse always to retroactive legislation in contexts of this kind where great and almost irremedial damage has been done to the environment by a company which has shown itself to be totally obtuse and which has used every subterfuge, I attended hearings here and heard what they had to say—

Mr. T. P. Reid: They tell you the process for a year after.

Mr. Lawlor: They will use the athleticism of courts in order to defeat you. I think you simply have to pass legislation to compensate these fishermen. We are convinced of that on our side. I do not think that the courts have the apparatus or the means whereby to make an objective determination of them, and considering the loathness of courts to create new law I will be deeply surprised to find you being successful at the end of the day. In the meantime we are throttled.

Mr. Chairman: We will adjourn until 8 p.m.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, there is no committee meeting tonight.

Mr. Chairman: Tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Martel: Why is there no committee meeting tonight?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You will have to ask the Speaker.

The committee adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

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ONTARIO

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, May 11, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1971

The committee met at 4.25 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. Hamilton in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
(continued)

On votes 505, 506 and 507, inclusive:

Mr. Chairman: Yesterday we were dealing with votes 505, 506 and 507 of the estimates of The Department of Energy and Resources Management in respect of the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

Carried?

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): No, not carried at all.

Mr. K. C. Bolton (Middlesex South): I have something I would like to say about water management in connection with Medway Creek.

An hon. member: Save the Medway!

Mr. Bolton: There is a group known as "Save the Medway," and I think the minister has had correspondence from them. I would like to discuss this under the general heading of public relations.

I think we can all agree that environment can only be improved and protected with the aid of enthusiastic citizens' involvement. In the Arva district, where the Medway Creek runs, a group of 300 people met to discuss—do you want me to go right on?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Go ahead; just carry right on.

Mr. Bolton: A group met to discuss the sewage disposal problem of the Salvation Army building there. I attended the meeting on January 5, 1971, and arising from the meeting there has been a great deal of discussion about the attitude of the people there in a way that quite disturbed me. A suggestion has been made that the chairman, Peter Lewington, who is the field editor of the

Country Guide, is something of a kook, that the whole business was all very badly handled and that there were great political overtones.

I attended because I was invited to do so; It is adjacent to my riding. There was not the least political implications in the meeting. I was there, Liberals were there, Conservatives were there. It was simply a meeting of concerned people who were looking for information about the possible thorough pollution of Medway Creek.

I would like to know what sampling of the Medway has been done to see whether it is fit, by your standards, for swimming. I have in mind the fact that at that meeting a professional engineer, Mr. Provarts, representing the firm M. M. Dillon, made the statement that children should not be so stupid as to go into the Medway. The Medway is a lovely creek that runs through one of the more beautiful parts of our province, and when the neighbours met to discuss this thing I think it was not very appropriate that the general reaction should be that here is a group of rather stupid people being obstructive of advances by the Ontario Water Resources Commission. I point out that in addition to Peter Lewington, who was the chairman, their director of research is Dr. Evan Shute, who is very highly respected.

I would like to urge that when community people get together to discuss the problem of pollution, they should be given the benefit of being concerned and sane people, even though their conclusions might conceivably be wrong. Correspondence I have seen in this matter and reports in the press would have daunted other people and prevented them from attending meetings of that nature. I would like to urge that when our citizens get together to discuss pollution they be given courteous treatment, and this is not always true in any given situation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I am not just sure what the hon. member means, that there was discourteous treatment. My recollection of this particular problem was that there was a citizens' group—I believe they call themselves "Save the Medway"—who attended a hearing that was held by the

commission. I believe the vice chairman held the hearing.

As a result of that hearing and the information regarding the system to be used to treat the waste, and the efforts that would be required by the Salvation Army for the treatment of the waste were made known; it was after this that the staff of the engineering branch of the OWRC decided that the methods being proposed with some minor changes would be an appropriate form of treatment. Now I suppose we have got to sort of rely on our staff people—our technicians, our biologists, our engineers at OWRC—who are involved in this whole business of making sure that we are preserving the quality of water and that there is a proper treatment of the effluent. It was after all this, it seemed, that one or two people on the committee were not prepared to accept the OWRC's decision and there was a great deal of correspondence passing back and forth.

I, of course, did not attend the hearing. I do not know if there was any discourtesy shown at the hearing to people who would ask questions or wanted to be heard. I understood it was a full, open meeting, but it seemed to build up. I personally am always concerned that while there is opposition to a particular project, whether it is a lagoon system, a sanitary landfill site or what have you, in the meantime the quantity of the water and the effluent is contaminated and pollution carries on. This is the only concern I had.

So you become concerned when you see a specific letterhead being set out headed "Save the Medway." It seemed really that there would be no solution or no remedy that would be satisfactory to that committee, and we were sort of at a standstill and an impasse; and I suppose everybody agreed to disagree. I do not know how we resolve those things, because as I say at some point the people have to trust the OWRC's judgement that this system will not be a nuisance or will not contaminate the Medway.

Mr. Bolton: Well as I say, I attended the meeting on January 5 and I heard the changed decision of the Water Resources Commission. Originally the plan would have had a single cell and they decided they would move to a double-cell arrangement which seemed to me—I know very little about these things—to be a reasonable change. But that change had not been well communicated to the original people who had met with the committee, and certainly at the meeting

itself the chairman and others who were opposing this procedure were treated with something less than respect.

Now I myself did not speak at the meeting, as I wanted it completely non-political, but there was almost a concerted effort made to make Lewington look stupid.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, that is unfortunate.

Mr. Bolton: It was rather unfortunate. I think it was very evident that the people who should have been objective in this matter became highly involved personally, and I thought this was not befitting objective representatives of a government department. That is all I want to say.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): During the question period today the minister said there were three methods of attempting to purify the waters of mercury. One of them is the dredging method. What other two stand high on the list?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: My information, Mr. Chairman, is that the three methods would be dredging, neutralizing with some chemicals or burying—in other words covering it with rocks or some sort of a cover.

Mr. Burr: Well, I have run across the claim that the Japanese used some weird bacteria that just love mercury. They were able to change it into some other chemicals in the process and claimed that this was a method that they used successfully. I have mentioned this on one or two occasions and you have said it was under consideration. What details have you about this method?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As I say, this is another method that has been mentioned by some of the experts who are involved in advising the government. I think, Mr. Chairman, that really this matter is all sub judice. This matter is now before the courts and I think that under the circumstances there seems to be some intention to prolong the debate—

Mr. Bullbrook: On a point of order!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —on this particular matter in relation to reclamation methods—

Mr. Bullbrook: On a point of order!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —when this is a very important part of a legal case.

Mr. Bullbrook: On a point of order!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think therefore it is sub judice. You keep asking the same questions—

Mr. Bullbrook: On a point of order!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —about methods of reclamation, and of course I do not think—

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Chairman, surely to goodness you have your function?

On a point of order, the point of order being that we may as well have the ruling now, because I intend to go into this matter in significant detail. I do not intend to get into the internal details of the lawsuit. I want to deal with the motivation of the government in connection with the lawsuit.

Mr. Chairman: That is the same—

Mr. Bullbrook: No—it involves pronouncements made by the ministry, by the Prime Minister (Mr. Davis) and pronouncements made as late as this afternoon in the Legislature. I suggest to you, in connection with the point of order, the minister is now asking us to regard this matter as sub judice in committee when this very afternoon, in reply to a question, he took it upon himself to talk about three methods.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That was in reply to a question, that is right. I should have probably said at that time that it is sub judice, and that I should not answer. I was hoping somewhere along the line that you as a lawyer would realize it was sub judice and be satisfied with these answers, which you are not. You want to make a political issue out of it.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, can I speak to the point of order? Surely the minister begs the question completely. His colleague, the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) brought out a pamphlet entitled “All You Should Know About Mercury” after the lawsuit had been commenced, and—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The thing went to print before the lawsuit.

Mr. Singer: —if there was anything in this minister's point now, his colleague was breaching the rule.

He and his colleagues—all his colleagues—have been questioned on this at great length in the House and not one of them has seen fit until this moment, when it now becomes embarrassing to argue, that the point is sub judice. The Speaker and the deputy Speaker have listened at great length, and the minister, now that he is about to be backed off

into the corner, suddenly wants to cut off the discussion. I suggest to you, sir, that he is absolutely wrong and you should rule him out of order.

Mr. Chairman: We had a lengthy discussion of this very matter yesterday, before this committee. It is my understanding that the matter of the Dow Chemical Company is now before the courts, and I rule further discussion of this matter out of order.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Chairman, when the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside is finished I am going to attempt to speak to this committee in connection with the Dow Chemical suit. It is not my purpose or intention to discuss the internal aspects of the suit. I invite your consideration that the minister, during the course of these estimates, has made comments himself as late as yesterday afternoon, page S-113-3 of the draft Hansard, where he speaks about motivation on our part. I want to speak about motivation, sir.

I accept your ruling as it presently stands in connection with the comments of the minister in relation to the questions put forward by the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside. I intend to go further, sir, and I hope that I will be in order.

Mr. Chairman: It is my intent to rule all further discussion of the Dow Chemical Company out of order, that is entirely, because of its position.

Mr. Bullbrook: Then, sir, I respectfully challenge that ruling.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Mr. Chairman, who are the voting members here?

Mr. Chairman: Call the roll of the voting members.

Clerk of Committee: Mr. Rollins.

Mr. C. T. Rollins (Hastings): Here.

Clerk of Committee: Mr. Bolton.

Mr. Bolton: Here.

Clerk of the Committee: Mr. Burr.

Mr. Burr: Present.

Clerk of Committee: Mr. Carruthers.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): I think before you go any further I will have to get up on a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

On two occasions when I came in to register as being a voting member replacing the hon. member for Nipissing (Mr. R. S. Smith), they did not take any names down. I want you, before you go any further, to know that I am a voting member of this committee, since the member for Nipissing is not able to be here because of the Lands and Forests estimates.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Another point of order, Mr. Chairman. The question arises, what position do I take in this matter? I am on the committee of estimates and deal with estimates, and I feel that I have a right here to vote on any issue—

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Oh, come on.

Mr. Haggerty: —because it has never been clarified just what position the committee of estimates deals with.

Mr. Chairman: I think it is set out fairly clearly in Votes and Proceedings. It sets out that substitution of members be permitted on all standing committees while considering estimates referred to them, provided the chairman is informed of any substitutions at the start of each meeting. It is quite clearly set out, gentlemen.

Mr. Yakabuski: You have been informed today, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: I have not been informed of this substitution.

Mr. Yakabuski: All right; here you are. It is clear enough to anyone.

Mr. Ruston: I challenge that, Mr. Chairman. Because on two occasions when I have come in here, not once did they take down any record of me being a voting delegate. Since then I have just come in and attended all meetings, and if you are going to carry on this way we cannot accept it.

I do not care what you say. It is not right.

Mr. Yakabuski: You know the rules.

Mr. Ruston: Oh, rules—rules of that kind. I know—

Mr. Chairman: Order please!

Mr. Singer: Is not it strange that we have got them for two months and now you have lost them.

Mr. Ruston: I wondered why there were so many Tories here today. I thought there

was something coming. Look at them. It is up to nine. In the last two days there were only four or five.

Mr. Chairman: Order please!

Mr. Ruston: I will shut up when I am ready to shut up. If you want to throw me out, throw me out.

Mr. Yakabuski: Were you down here and upstairs?

Mr. Chairman: The ruling has been made; it has been sent out. Every person is aware of it. It is shown quite clearly in—

Mr. Singer: Do you rule differently than the Speaker rules?

Mr. Chairman: I do not believe so.

Mr. Bullbrook: Have the vote, have the vote! Go ahead with the vote.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr Chairman, are you dealing with estimates?

Mr. Chairman: We are dealing with estimates.

Mr. Haggerty: Am I not a member of the estimates committee?

Mr. Chairman: No.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): You are not on this committee. You are hearing an estimate, but this is not the estimates committee.

Mr. Haggerty: This is a hearing on estimates, is it not?

Mr. Singer: Come on, carry on the railroad!

Mr. Chairman: The matter of the Chairman is clear of course. I would only say that the members that are listed as being here today are Mr. Allan, Mr. Bolton, Mr. Burr, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Johnston (Carleton), Mr. McNeil, Mr. Newman (Ontario South), Mr. Rollins, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Yakabuski.

Mr. Singer: Do you agree with us that we are still here?

Mr. Bullbrook: Have the vote!

Mr. Singer: We are still here. We can talk.

Mr. Bullbrook: Are you saying, sir, that because I am not a member of the committee—you might have a valid point there—because I am not a member of the committee I cannot

challenge your ruling? Is that the point that you make?

Mr. Chairman: No. That is truly not the point we make.

Mr. Bullbrook: All right! Well then have the vote, sir. Have the vote! That is all you can do.

I respectfully challenge your ruling and I do not like to do this.

Mr. Chairman: Those in favour of the Chairman's ruling?

Those opposed?

The Chairman's ruling has been upheld.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Chairman, I want my name to be recorded as a voting member of this committee. I want Hansard to show that, because I am definitely a voting member.

Mr. Yakabuski: Grow up!

Mr. Ruston: I do not care if you or anybody else says I am not. I am, according to the rules.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Chairman, I want to speak to a question of personal privilege, as would, I think, my colleague from Downsview. I refer you to yesterday again, to the Instant Hansard, page S113-3 and the following dialogue that took place:

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only thing that sort of amuses me is why the Liberal Party and some of its pollution critics seem to feel that they have to be apologists for Dow Chemical.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Now who is being an apologist—and how did that get into this conversation?

Might I interject, sir, for a moment, it got into the conversation again in the House this afternoon. I continue:

Mr. T. P. Reid: In what way now.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And a number of other members, the member for Downsview particularly—

The member for Downsview could most adequately speak for himself.

There is therein contained, sir, an imputation of motives not proven which are strictly outside the rules of this House or any other parliament under the democratic process. I therefore request that you permit me to speak at length in this connection resisting the

imputation of those motives, as a privilege warranted because of my membership in the Legislature.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, let me speak to a point of privilege too. I did not realize the extent of the reference here in Hansard.

Let me say this. I spoke at some length in the Throne debate about this subject and the minister was there and at no time did he or the Speaker challenge me. In fact, the only persons who challenged me were the editors of one of the Toronto papers in an editorial and imputed to me a lack of courage sufficient to make the statements out of the House.

I have since made those statements out of the House in the presence of one of their reporters and challenged them, as I challenge the minister today, because I am going to keep on talking about this subject out of the House, to cite me for contempt before the Supreme Court of Ontario. I wish, in fact, they would.

Mr. Yakabuski: If recorded.

Mr. Singer: But, Mr. Chairman, I am suggesting to you that it is completely impractical and improper at this stage in the game when all of these debates have taken place upstairs and down here suddenly to decide that this is a sacred point that we can no longer talk about. I would ask you, sir, the basis on which these remarks were allowed to go unchallenged yesterday and in the House on numerous occasions—as recently as this afternoon—and in the House by the Minister of Lands and Forests, when he tabled his pamphlet. Now suddenly the whole matter is sub judice and we are not allowed to talk about it.

I say, sir, if your ruling is to prevail and you are going to attempt to put the muzzle on, you are abrogating your responsibility as an impartial Chairman of the committee of this House. You are in fact applying a muzzle to the members of the opposition, who legitimately should be able to talk about this subject, and in addition legitimately be able to answer the uncalled-for imputations hurled forth very loosely and incredibly by this minister.

Mr. Bullbrook: I want to speak further in connection with the point of personal privilege. I invite your consideration of this. I realize this is a difficult situation for you, Mr. Chairman, and I apologize for being a party to creating this situation.

I assess it generally, because it is not debatable, but in connection with the point of personal privilege I invite your consideration of this, sir. Not three seconds before you made that ruling the minister had taken upon himself to reply to the member for Sandwich-Riverside. Do we all of a sudden polarize our position, that eventually he says it is now sub judice after he makes his comments, and therefore the rest of us cannot make our comments?

I do not want to talk about the propriety of the lawsuit, sir. I want to talk about the motivations and make them clear. Now I must say to you that during the course of my remarks I am going to have to mention Dow Chemical. I cannot do otherwise. But I ask you to consider that you afford me the privilege, and probably the member for Downsview also, of discussing our position in connection with this.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say that one of the reasons I have not objected although I have indicated in the House that this matter could be considered sub judice, was that I think probably out of fairness in order not to avoid answering what were questions from the opposition by hiding behind the curtain of sub judice, I was willing to answer reasonable questions. I was hoping that sometime, particularly those that happened to be lawyers in the opposition, would see the wisdom of dropping the matter while this matter was before the courts.

Mr. Singer: It will be before the courts for 10 years.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All we had was, of course, repetitious questions and insinuations that there was something wrong about our motives behind this whole matter.

The hon. member for Sarnia just said that he is not going to get involved in the propriety of the lawsuit. In my opinion you cannot avoid being involved in that in a discussion. The hon. member has just admitted that he—

Mr. Bullbrook: I asked you to consider it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —will have to mention Dow. I am just saying that I am sure that the solicitors for the defendant are listening with great interest to this debate that goes on up here about the wisdom of suing Dow and the methods used to comply with the court order.

Mr. Bullbrook: The public of Ontario is listening.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the idea of repeating what the hon. member for Sarnia said when he first heard about this lawsuit—in so many words, “Good, let the courts decide”—is the intention behind this whole matter: To get a court order, to get some precedent as to contamination and pollution at this time.

Mr. Bullbrook: Do you realize what is going on now? Do you realize he is talking about the lawsuit? Do you realize that—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I realize that, but am I getting through to the hon. member?

Mr. Chairman: I rule that all further discussion on the matters of the Dow Chemical Company is out of order. The Chairman's ruling has already been upheld in effect. We will go, gentlemen, with another matter.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, it is all right to talk about chemical pollution—mercury pollution—without mentioning that terrible word “Dow”? Is that permissible?

Mr. Chairman: I think we have allowed that.

Mr. Singer: All right, I will abide by that and not use the word “Dow.”

Mr. Bullbrook: I would like now to question the—

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Bullbrook: Oh I am sorry. I thought you were finished.

Mr. Burr: No, I had not got started when the storm broke.

Mr. Bullbrook: Keep going, I would be pleased to hear your remarks.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, I was not interested in any political overtones. I was just interested—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not political overtones!

Mr. Burr: Undertones?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, not political at all.

Mr. Burr: Tones?

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order: Was the Premier's remark, “This will show that we mean business,” breaching the sub judice rule?

Mr. Yakabuski: No further discussion!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That was at the time the action was launched.

Mr. Singer: No; that was all right for the Premier and the minister and others, but not for the opposition.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. Burr: I am interested in cleaning up the environment. That is the only thought I had in mind when I started this question this afternoon.

Mr. Bullbrook: We all are!

Mr. Burr: You will recall, or at least the minister will recall, that I have written to him on various occasions. On one occasion I sent him what I considered a kind of a far-out-in-left-field method of making our waterways safe from mercury. I suggested that perhaps it might be possible to cover the bottom of some of our waterways with huge sheets of heavy plastic and weight them down with slabs of cement, something like a patio. I suggested that I was sending in this suggestion to him merely because no one else seemed to have any recommendations from anybody.

I was surprised to get a letter back saying, "This is one of the methods we have in mind." I have referred today to the method which I have read of—the Japanese claim they used successfully in cleaning up their waters, that is by the use of these unusual bacteria which love to eat mercury.

Mr. Singer: You are sure that was not oil?

Mr. Burr: No, this was mercury.

Mr. Singer: They had that on TV one night, the bacteria eating oil. It takes about 10 years before they can get rid of any appreciable amount of oil.

Mr. Burr: There are all kinds of bacteria. There are all kinds of queer bacteria.

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): There sure are, right here!

Mr. Burr: But I have no detailed information. One of the—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am sure you have more than we have.

Mr. Burr: What I am seeking—because the minister has said that this is one of the

methods that they were considering—is some information. For example, first of all, have the Japanese used this method successfully? That is a simple question. Have you an answer to that?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are not aware that the Japanese have used it successfully. We know they are using it to convert mercury to a chemical. But by using bacteria it is being turned into its most toxic form—metal mercury. We have no knowledge that the use of bacteria will convert it into a harmless form of chemical.

In other words, it will not neutralize it or nullify it or whatever you want to call it. We are not really sure that method will convert the mercury into a harmless form of chemical.

Mr. Burr: Have you a copy of this paper that the Japanese wrote on the subject?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Have you got the reference? We are not aware of this one.

Mr. Burr: Yes. I think it was some university in California which was doing some research on the literature that went through thousands and thousands of articles. They found this Japanese article—I would say about two years ago—which described this method of treating or overcoming or cleaning up the mercury situation by the use of these bacteria.

I naturally assumed that by this time you would have this on hand and could give me some information.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am told that the solicitor for OWRC was at a symposium at Ann Arbor, Michigan, just last fall where there were a lot of worldwide experts, including Japanese experts, who deal with this whole matter of mercury contamination and reclamation and neutralizing mercury. There was no mention, apparently, of this method at all at that point.

So we would assume from that the method has not been perfected.

Mr. Burr: That is as far as we can carry it at the moment?

Mr. Bullbrook: May I interject, Mr. Minister. In connection with the dredging procedure, could you give us some examples where this has been used without undue adverse ecological effect in the world? Has it been used in Sweden?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Dr. Landis will give you some information on what the Swedish people have done.

Dr. H. Landis (Ontario Water Resources Commission): In Placentia Bay in Newfoundland there was a very toxic form of phosphate introduced into the water. It is toxic to fish, I think in one part per billion. I mean it is toxic for fish whereas mercury, as we know it, is not toxic to fish.

The conditions there were different to some extent from the conditions that prevail in Ontario. The Bay is a body of ocean water; but the area was dredged—I believe there were about 15,000 cubic yards dredged from the bottom—and the matter was resolved satisfactorily.

Mr. Bullbrook: Are you familiar with the rate of water flow of the St. Clair River? Could you give me the rate of water flow? Have you taken into consideration—

Dr. Landis: There are differences between the situations. There were large boulders, for example, in Placentia Bay. We do not have these boulders here throughout Ontario. The situation may not be analogous, but it is an example of dredging a material which is highly toxic to fish and it was done satisfactorily without any great impairment of the fish life or other interests in the area.

Mr. Bullbrook: I take it then that there has not been any direct experience with the successful dredging of mercury sediment in the world?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is correct.

Mr. Singer: Before we leave the mercury dredging: On the experience with phosphates in Placentia Bay, what area on the surface would that dredging of 15,000 cubic yards of phosphate removal cover? Was it a concentrated area or was it an area spread as large as the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie?

Dr. Landis: It was smaller than that area.

Mr. Singer: How small?

Dr. Landis: I do not know.

Mr. Singer: You do not know? What was the bottom like? Was it a stable bottom or a silty bottom such as we find in the St. Clair River and the St. Clair Lake and Lake Huron?

Dr. Landis: This information would be available to you, Mr. Singer, if you contacted the—

Mr. Singer: No, I am asking you because you are advising the minister.

Dr. Landis: I do not know the answer to that question.

Mr. Singer: Has anyone, to your knowledge, dredged successfully to remove mercury contamination anywhere in the world?

Dr. Landis: At the present time I have not heard of such a case.

Mr. Bullbrook: May I ask, Mr. Chairman, of the expert, are you familiar with the ongoing studies undertaken by The Department of the Interior in the United States at the present time in connection with this problem of dredging mercury? Are you aware that The Department of the Interior of the United States has invited private enterprise and the academic world to tender methods, ecologically acceptable, of removing mercury? Are you familiar with that? It is on-going at the present time.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is as far as it has gone, too.

Mr. Bullbrook: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: An invitation? Nobody has tried it yet, so therefore they cannot give an opinion.

Mr. Bullbrook: Are you familiar with the fact that there has been an interim report in connection with it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I am not.

Mr. Bullbrook: My information is that there has been an interim report and that they have not yet, with their expertise, successfully evolved a method of dredging or otherwise.

I do not want to get into a lengthy cross-examination. That is not the purpose.

Mr. Singer: Are you familiar with the studies conducted by the federal laboratory in Winnipeg insofar as dredging was concerned, and the conclusion that they arrived at was an attempt at dredging would only stir up the pollution and spread it over a wider area?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are aware that this is one of the problems involved in dredging. We are also aware that included in the process of dredging were steps or remedies that

could be taken to contain this, to avoid that particular problem.

Mr. Singer: Are you satisfied that there is a practical and effective method of dredging that could be commenced tomorrow morning if you so chose?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Based on the recommendations we have, yes.

Mr. Burr: May I ask my second question?

Mr. Chairman: Is there a further matter that concerned—

Mr. Bullbrook: I was wondering if the member for Sandwich-Riverside, who instituted the discussion, intended to go into the question of neutralizing. I take it, to shorten the matter, that the minister would take the position, as a result of his expert advice, that neutralizing is a method that would be available also? Has it been used successfully any place in the world?

Mr. A. K. Watt (Ontario Water Resources Commission): Mr. Chairman, we are aware of the fact that neutralization can be one method of dealing with the mercury problem. I do not think that this has been done anywhere on the scale that would be involved here, but it is a possibility and one that has been considered.

Mr. Bullbrook: I think the most important aspect of this, I must say frankly, is that I think we are getting into situations that will involve the onus upon the Crown in connection with a certain lawsuit that is presently in being, so I am going to stop that line. I am more interested in the departmental activity in this connection recognizing, perhaps unfairly, that certainly we people and government as a result have a collateral responsibility in connection with the question of mercury being down there.

I think the member for Sandwich-Riverside—who does stand among the 117 of us as one who initiated the great ecological concern several years ago when it was not as popular a consideration for most of us—did make comment that a certain company that is involved in litigation with the government at the present time did not know that the particular process was a bad process, so he does perhaps take a more objective attitude in connection with it than do I.

I am interested in connection with the expenditures of the department. Just what are you doing, what facilities do you have available in connection with research into

the whole question of the removal of toxic substances? Are you spending enough money? Do you have the expertise? Have you availed yourselves of the invitation that we in the opposition gave over the last two estimates that you do hire people with great expertise? Do you have any PhDs on your staff?

Mr. D. Caverly (General Manager, Ontario Water Resources Commission): Yes, we do.

Mr. Bullbrook: Good, because we did not have any two years ago.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Is that a criterion?

Mr. Bullbrook: Well it would be nice to know we had someone who is knowledgeable. In any event, I would think they would be more knowledgeable than we are.

Mr. Caverly: I might just add here, Mr. Chairman, that as the mercury situation developed we had to increase our facilities at the laboratory, and I think the members of the committee who toured the lab saw the work we have been doing. We had to develop and refine a method of testing fish for mercury, and in quantities. As you know, when this first developed we had to send the fish to California for testing. I pay a lot of tribute to our scientists at the laboratory for developing these processes, and the reliability of them, in the short period of time. We have had to increase our surveillance in the St. Clair River, together with a lot of our staff's time in looking not only at mercury but other possible contaminants at this time.

I can get the figures for—

Mr. Bullbrook: I do not want to get into the question. We are all knowledgeable, Mr. Chairman, or Mr. Caverly, that you did develop this expertise. I think you responded with a degree of alacrity to the situation in connection with the fish and the transmutation of the mercury into methyl mercury. One has to wonder, really, whether the publicity concurrent with it was really beneficial, having regard to the hazard; but that is for you to decide in your position, not me.

I am wondering, is there any on-going research at the present time in connection with these very things—dredging, neutralizing, covering. Are you doing this and where does it show in your expenditures here? Would it be under lab, at \$1,028,000?

Mr. Caverly: It is split, and this is why it is difficult to pull it out for you exactly in dollars on short notice.

Mr. Bullbrook: Well, do not—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Vote 506 really is the one that—

Mr. Caverly: Vote 506, the division on environmental quality, contains a good part of that. The rest would appear in the same vote under the divisions of laboratory and research.

Mr. Bullbrook: We know the government undertook an expedition—I do not know whether the minister went or not—to Sweden last year.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Naturally!

Mr. Bullbrook: You did, naturally.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I wanted to see that mercury first-hand.

Mr. Bullbrook: As a matter of fact, I think every cabinet minister hit Europe last year, did they not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Except one!

Mr. Bullbrook: Except one. In any event, what facilities are available? You have, let us say, several millions of dollars. Are there on-going studies now in connection with the removal of mercury, be it in the St. Clair or Lake Superior?

Mr. Caverly: Yes.

Mr. Bullbrook: Do you undertake actual specific tests in connection with this?

Mr. Caverly: We are doing a number of experiments which you might call research on this.

Mr. Bullbrook: And you are finding some degree of success in connection with this?

Mr. Caverly: Yes.

Mr. Bullbrook: Are you going to make this available to the public at large?

Mr. Caverly: Naturally, but I do not want to get involved in this controversy that is taking place this afternoon.

Mr. Bullbrook: You are not, sir.

Mr. Caverly: I have to be guided also, in the remarks that I make, by our general counsel here. But I can say in these various estimates we had to increase our staff of last year; an application was made to Treasury Board to take this on. I might also add that it was the alertness of one of our

biologists who found the mercury in the St. Clair River after attending a seminar at Western University given by Mr. Fimreite. He saw a great similarity here. We had been doing a bottom sediment study of the St. Clair River as a normal procedure of monitoring and he went back and put two and two together, and came up with four and analysed the samples. We had the drop, really—Michigan knew nothing about it and the federal government in the United States were caught flat-footed.

Mr. Bullbrook: I must say, Mr. Caverly, and I say it most respectfully, those are self-serving comments in connection with things in the past. What we are concerned with now, and I direct my question in connection with this. I take it from what you said that you have been able to devise methods to remove the mercury at the present time. Your response was a positive one. Now, are you going to make that available to the public, because it is a cause of great concern to the public at large?

Mr. Caverly: I would say, as a general answer, yes. These will eventually be put out either as research bulletins or as reports on mercury investigations. They will be made available to the public, yes.

Mr. Bullbrook: You recognize—and I realize this is somewhat a tenuous comment that I am going to make—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are still getting into that area.

Mr. Bullbrook: —at the present time, demanding that a certain segment of the public do a certain thing in connection with mercury. My concern is if we have the expertise here in Ontario—I am prepared to accept your word now that you have; the minister has said “Yes, we have the expertise”—why are we sitting on it? Why are we not making it available, for example, to the Department of the Interior in the United States? Why are we not saying, “Look, we know how to remove this mercury now”?

Mr. Caverly: These are on-going experiments. I mean we are doing fish-cage experiments right now in the St. Clair River—you know this as well—trying to find out more about how the mercury gets into the fish.

Mr. Bullbrook: Yes, we all know the problem there.

Mr. Caverly: But we do not put these reports out until our studies are concluded.

Mr. Bullbrook: The ultimate answer is that the studies are not completed?

Mr. Caverly: No, they are on-going because I do not think we know definitely all we want to know about mercury. But we know enough about it at this point in time to know what is happening to the fish. Now if we can work out better methods—in other words we do not want to rest on our oars on these things, we want to continue to see if we can improve on what we have already found out.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, there have been so many supplementaries that you have forgotten that I have the floor, I think.

What other heavy metals are you testing fish for? For example cadmium, chromium, arsenic leads, cyanide? What I am wondering is, when we get the mercury problem solved are we suddenly going to find that the fish have too much of some other single pollutant or some other combination of pollutants and the fish are not fit for human consumption? What exactly are you doing in that line? I was at the OWRC lab and I saw that you are doing things along that line. Could you give us a rundown of what heavy metals and pesticides you are testing fish for?

Mr. Caverly: We have been working on this, Mr. Chairman. We have been working on levels of DDT in fish now for some years. After the mercury situation, of course, we are looking at all heavy metals, and other what you might call exotic chemicals. We are trying to find out more about them.

In some of these cases—you ask are we analyzing these in fish—it is like the mercury case, we are going to have to develop methods for detecting. This gets back to my answer to Mr. Bullbrook—we are all in a state of flux on these things, but I think the mercury thing pointed out something very clearly to us: that we have to really look at a lot of these other things which were normally not considered pollutants by the scientific community of the day.

Mr. Burr: Are you testing them, for example, for cadmium?

Mr. Caverly: Not yet.

Mr. Burr: And PCBs?

Mr. Caverly: Yes. The problem with PCBs of course, again is to try to get a method where you do not get an interference from DDT in your results. They are so similar that it is very difficult, when this comes out on those graphs, to know whether you are talking about PCB or DDT.

Mr. Burr: All right; this leads me to my third and perhaps final question.

Because we know that the contamination of the environment by some of these pollutants has gone far too far by now—for example, mercury, cadmium, PCBs, to take three examples—and lead to take four examples, should we not—that is society, the Legislature, your department—be concentrating on trying to reduce to a tolerable level the use of these things in our manufacturing processes.

For example we are trying to get lead out of the internal combustion engine and we have reduced the use of mercury in certain manufacturing processes. Should we not be working on all of these known and leading pollutants that are being used in industry, and trying actively to get industry to use or to develop substitutes before the damage goes too far?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mainly as a result of an amendment to The OWRC Act we have asked for an inventory, really, of all the different types of chemicals and substitutes and synthetics that we feel may be used by various industries in the province.

For example PCB—we had some difficulty in getting this information from the manufacturer. There is only one manufacturer apparently. We wanted to know who he was selling this stuff to. We have finally got that information now and we have indicated to these wholesalers or distributors the possible dangers of PCB and the importance of limiting its use, its proper use, and where it can be dangerous. At the same time we are continually monitoring the use of PCB, looking at the end result to see if there is any danger.

We are doing this with all types of chemicals that we feel may end up with the same problem, for example, that mercury had; not only the use in manufacture but also the use in the process of manufacture where they could lose it, as in the case with mercury, into their receiving waters. As a result of this information, of course, the amendment to the Act provides, I believe, that a company has to report when it uses a type of substance that may pollute or may breach the provisions

of our legislation. We are building up quite an inventory as a result of this and of course with our on-going research, conducted at both the provincial and federal level, and of course any worldwide information we get on these chemicals, we would have, you might say, a pretty complete dossier on these particular materials.

We realize there are certain dangers, but there is no danger if it is used properly. We are always concerned, as with phosphates, that the substitute you suggest we should ask the companies to find may still cause problems.

I am sure that industry, knowing our concern and knowing the fact that we very well may prohibit the use of a particular ingredient, is looking to substitutes which would be more acceptable, and I suppose just as effective from the point of view of the use, for whatever purpose it is used.

Mr. Burr: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Yakabuski.

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Singer: Is it possible that I could get the floor?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, because, in all fairness, I think we are trying to spread the matters around as we note those members that desire to speak.

Mr. Haggerty is next, then Mr. Singer.

Mr. Singer: Oh, come on, Mr. Chairman!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Yakabuski.

Mr. Yakabuski: Well, Mr. Chairman, I had to wait until you allowed me to say something and although I did not want to say this without the member from—oh, he is back—Sarnia south—but I had to disagree with him on—

Mr. Bullbrook: Where is Sarnia south?

Mr. Yakabuski: —when he said to Mr. Caverly about his statements with regard to the St. Clair. Their discoveries were certainly a first on this continent—he sort of took Mr. Caverly to task. I think this information and these facts are very important to the members of this committee and to the general public—that the job our Ontario Water Resources Commission is doing here in this province is second to none, certainly on this

continent and perhaps the world, and I think this is very—

Mr. Bullbrook: On a point of order!

I was taking issue with Mr. Caverly because he was not responding to my question. He was talking about fish and I was talking about removing mercury from the bottom of the river.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, but he was blowing his own horn a little bit and you sort of objected to that.

Mr. Bullbrook: I used the phrase “self-serving.”

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is something you never do.

Mr. Bullbrook: If the minister wants to get into a confrontation, let us get into a confrontation.

Mr. Chairman: Order, gentlemen!

Mr. Yakabuski: The point I was trying to make, Mr. Chairman, is this, that these are very important things both to this committee and to the general public and I think the more we know about them, the better. As a matter of fact, I am very very proud that the Water Resources Commission of the Province of Ontario has been first in these things. I think this is great.

Mr. Singer: I think it is great.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I will go on to a different subject and this deals with the pollution abatement programme.

Mr. Singer: That is on a par with your sub judice ruling, Mr. Chairman.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Singer: No, I have a right to talk in this committee too without all this diversionary nonsense.

Mr. Chairman: Might I point out to the hon. member—

Mr. Singer: You can point out as much as you want.

Mr. Chairman: Might I point out to the hon. member that Mr. Haggerty has been waiting for quite some time.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, now talking about the problem of pollution abatement programming in the town of Fort Erie and this deals with the force main for East Bertie sewage—I think you are familiar with this, Mr. Caverly.

Mr. Caverly: It is one of our projects?

Mr. Haggerty: Well, it is long overdue as one of your projects, yes. This is a matter that has been going on for perhaps some 10 years in the township of Bertie.

I have a question about comments in the paper here that a vote was taken by the local municipal council and it was carried by a vote of one. This is for a force main to tie in with the new expansion programme on East Bertie, it ties in with the former plant facilities in the town of Fort Erie.

I understand that some six or seven years ago this plant capacity was rated for a population of 12,000 and I thought it was perhaps that the system was not able to handle the present demand required of it by my municipality.

Mr. Caverly: I am sorry. I did not get your question at the end there.

Mr. Haggerty: The present system in the town of Fort Erie, the treatment facilities there, is not large enough or sufficient now to handle the present municipality.

Mr. Caverly: Well, I think the answer to this is there is high infiltration in the sewers. You know, Fort Erie is an old town that had an old sewer system and we constructed a sewage plant on the end of it.

Mr. Haggerty: That is right!

Mr. Caverly: It is a problem that is not uncommon to that type. This is something that Fort Erie is going to have to correct because it is using up capacity in the plant. When we are faced with something like that and we have additional sewage coming in, such as you are talking about on this force main from East Bertie—

Mr. Haggerty: It is taking in about another 4,000 or 5,000 residents.

Mr. Caverly: —they will have to do one of two things in the town. They will have to enlarge the plant or reduce the infiltration, and in a situation such as this the two can go on concurrently. Now I do not know where the negotiations are, or whether they have been started yet as far as the enlargement of the plant or corrective measures are

concerned, but I am sure the town is aware of this.

Mr. Haggerty: Has the existing plant secondary treatment?

Mr. Caverly: No, it has not and it does not require it on the Niagara River at that point.

Mr. Haggerty: It does not?

Mr. Caverly: In other words, the primary treatment meets all the treatment requirements for the Niagara River at that time.

Mr. Haggerty: And you are using the Niagara River for secondary treatment, is that what you are using?

Mr. Caverly: No, we are not. Well, we have a very large dilution factor and as long as we do not degrade the quality at the point of discharge there is no need to go to secondary treatment. Now there will be a point in time when Fort Erie grows and that plant is enlarged and gets bigger that they would have to go into secondary treatment too.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you think that by the suggestion of the regional municipality of Niagara to implement this force main, this plant is going to be sufficient to handle that population in the new area?

Mr. Caverly: They are shaking their heads over there and Mr. Sharpe sits on this liaison committee with Niagara, so I would say he says no it will not.

Mr. Haggerty: It will not. What is the position of the Ontario Water Resources Commission on this particular case? I mean there was a need here for sewage treatment facilities in the town of Fort Erie. For 10 years the Ontario Water Resources Commission and local council have been aware of this need, yet it could be three or four years away yet. You are not ready to move on it, Although you have the finances—

Mr. K. H. Sharpe (Ontario Water Resources Commission): Well we feel that the first approach is to reduce the infiltration and we have been dealing with Fort Erie and Niagara regional municipality on that basis. Both municipalities, Niagara regional municipality and Fort Erie, have put up money for this study and to the elimination of this infiltration problem.

Mr. Haggerty: You are talking about surface water?

Mr. Sharpe: No, it is ground water that is getting into the sewers and using up the capacity of the plant. Clean water or water movement is being picked up by the sewers and is taking up the capacity of the plant. We can remove some of this infiltration and then we will be getting back the capacity for treated sewage.

Mr. Haggerty: What about the problem that lies to the west end of the municipality, the village of Ridgeway, in the township of Bertie?

Mr. Sharpe: In the future that area would be sewerred.

Mr. Haggerty: How long, though? I mean this is another thing that has been in the planning stage for some 10 years. In fact, Dr. Redfern carried out a study there in planning some five or six years ago, and completed the study as I recall, and there has not been anything done yet. And yet we find out in that municipality that all housing has been prohibited; the department of health—the Niagara regional health unit—will not allow any homes to be built in the area due to the pollution problem. They do not want any more septic tanks in the area. Yet the department here is not moving along to put a pollution abatement control programme there.

Now, in the village of Crystal Beach, which lies right adjoining—well, it is part of the municipality today—you have one of the best treatment facilities in Ontario. I think it is, I think it ranks tops, one of the best in Ontario.

Mr. Sharpe: That is the Block Rapid plant?

Mr. Haggerty: That is right, and yet this was built large enough, I understand, to take in Ridgeway, Bay Beach area; and the department has done nothing since that time. Now why?

Mr. Sharpe: That Crystal Beach plant is at capacity now.

Mr. Haggerty: It is at capacity? I thought it was built large enough to handle the areas of Ridgeway and Bay Beach.

Mr. Sharpe: I do not think so.

Mr. Haggerty: You had better check your records, because this is what has come out in the paper, that it is supposed to handle them.

Mr. Sharpe: Well it is again the problem of infiltration in the sewers taking up the capacity of the plant. Until we get the programme of eliminating the infiltration in the collector

system—then we will have the capacity back for sewage.

Mr. Haggerty: The only way that you are going to get around this then is to put the sewers in, is it not? I mean, in areas where perhaps the surface water or even water from the septic tanks is getting into certain drains within the Bay Beach area, which is unloading its overflow into the Crystal Beach system—this is what the problem is. Until you move and get sewers in those areas you are going to have this problem.

Mr. Sharpe: If we get more sewers in we are going to get more flow.

Mr. Haggerty: No, you will not. You will cut it out the minute you instal sanitary sewers. At the present time under the system in Bay Beach—I can think of this particular spot here—they do have storm sewers here in places and that is what they are using for sanitary sewers.

Mr. Caverly: Well we have been dealing with Bertie for some time, and I am aware of the problem. The regional government has come in and that now allows us to use the Fort Erie plant. We could never get Bertie and Fort Erie together if I remember rightly—

Mr. Haggerty: Oh no; I have to disagree with that, Mr. Chairman, because I was a member of that council, and in fact I think when they built the plant in Fort Erie there was a suggestion that we should have taken in the east end of Bertie township at that time; but that was up to your department to amalgamate in this area.

Mr. Caverly: I remember. That was some time ago, but I remember there were negotiations.

Mr. Haggerty: That is right, but you only built the plant large enough to handle a population of 12,000, and now you are taking in a population of maybe an additional six or seven thousand and this plant will not handle it.

Mr. Caverly: Well really, when you are designing something like that the layout is such that it can be enlarged and you do not put a plant and put a lot of capacities there and let it sit idle for a number of years.

In other words there is nothing to prevent an enlargement of the Fort Erie plant to proceed concurrent with the installation of additional sewers in Bertie township. But

the two would have to go together, in parallel, and we have now developed a very good liaison with regional Niagara and these things are now starting to move—

Mr. Haggerty: Starting to move? This is what has held it up for three years, regional government in the Niagara area—held this particular programme up.

Mr. Caverly: Well I think it has facilitated it, but sure there was a delay during the transition period. I think if you look at the long-term results, it will be better.

Mr. Haggerty: This is what the problem is right today; they cannot get through to the regional government that the need is there in this area to get on with the programme. One of the reasons the programme was not implemented a few years ago, was the argument that there was no plan. They did not have an official plan but they had a zoning bylaw, so they implemented the plan in 1967—

Mr. Caverly: Yes it is coming back to me now. They had a lot of trouble getting the official plan—

Mr. Haggerty: —and they carried on with a programme for sewage in that whole municipality of the former township of Bertie. This programme should have been implemented by 1970. It will be five or six years away and the cost has more than tripled at the present time.

One of the problems is how these municipalities will finance it. Sure they can go to regional government and regional government can finance it. They can float the debentures and try to sell them to the States or something, but I think this is your responsibility, to get in and finance the whole complete system.

Mr. Caverly: In regional Niagara the policy has been, if it is to their advantage, to use our financing on any of these, but—

Mr. Haggerty: You see, they go by priorities; based on priorities, and they only have \$15 million to spend. Now that \$15 million could be spent in the city of Welland or in the city of St. Catharines; and there is nothing left for the other municipalities.

Mr. Caverly: I do not know that much about the internal workings of regional Niagara, but in any of the discussions that we have had they have indicated they would recognize any priorities that we have in regard to servicing.

Mr. Haggerty: You might say every municipality has top priority in the Niagara region. How do you set the funds up for \$15 million?

Mr. Caverly: It is a problem everywhere, not only here in Ontario but anywhere you are always tight for money.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think if you worked on a cash-flow basis, if you wanted to increase your capacity there, a certain amount could be done, for example, at Fort Erie. The \$15 million is something that is available now, and there is probably going to be something available—

Mr. Haggerty: This is right, but then again it is long overdue.

Now the matter about Crystal Beach; you are going to check into this, are you, to see that this plant is sufficient to carry the areas of Crystal Beach and Ridgeway?

Mr. Caverly: Yes, we will check into it.

Mr. Haggerty: All right!

Now the other matter, Mr. Chairman, deals with a form of water pollution. I wonder if the minister is aware of this latest report dealing with the Arrow and the accident on the east coast?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The Arrow, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you got a copy of that report?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, I have not seen the report but I read something about it.

Mr. Haggerty: I understand that The Department of Transport has a report out dealing with the pollution problem, dealing with the situation on the east coast. I think one of the things in this report is that some of these older lake vessels, or vessels I should say that are on our Great Lakes system and around the east coast should have further inspections made. Some of them are perhaps 60 or 70 years old.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think—

Mr. Haggerty: What inspections do you have?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would suggest that we just ban all Liberian freighters from Lake Erie; that might solve our problem.

Mr. Haggerty: Say it a little bit louder.

Mr. Singer: You could sue them all.

Mr. Haggerty: Sue them all.

Mr. Singer: Or is that sub judice and we cannot discuss it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, we can sue them if they breach our laws, of course.

Mr. Haggerty: What laws have you?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Or damage our resources. That is what we are here for.

Mr. Haggerty: What inspections do you have at the present time to see that these ships meet—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is a federal responsibility.

Mr. Haggerty: Regardless of whether or not it is a federal responsibility, you must be able to reach the federal authorities and ask—

Mr. Caverly: Maybe I can answer part of this. Reference was made yesterday to the Great Lakes working group which has just been established within Canada and the United States, of which we in Ontario are participants, dealing with pollution in the lower Great Lakes and the recommendations of the IJC.

One of the assignments to this has been the matter you have raised—the transport of hazardous materials, tankers, the possibilities of accidents. We had one ship go aground in the Welland Canal a few years ago and split open its side. What about a collision? They are looking into this and I have seen the report that the group on the task force has made on this, which is pretty comprehensive.

I cannot remember all of the details of it. At this point in time I would merely indicate to you that this is being recognized and will be incorporated probably under the agreement which is being proposed between Canada and the US on pollution in the lower Great Lakes. They are going to increase the requirements regarding the traffic lanes they can use. In other words, certain hazardous materials cannot use this channel, they will have to use that channel. There is going to be an upgrading of requirements in regards to shipping instructions and things like that.

Mr. Haggerty: You are going to do all this?

Mr. Caverly: No, this has nothing to do with Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This is mainly under The Canada Shipping Act.

Mr. Caverly: The Canada Shipping Act covers this. We have had our input because we are responsible for the pollution side of it. When you get a freighter that is rotten and goes aground and breaks open its hull and puts a lot of material into the water, we are greatly concerned; this has been our input into it.

Mr. Haggerty: There have been occasions, I think, in the entrance of the Welland Canal when they dumped fuel oil, I believe, right at the intake of the city of Port Colborne.

Mr. Caverly: They dumped garbage out there as well.

Mr. Haggerty: What measures has the department adopted to reclaim oil spillage on the Great Lakes system or even in the Welland Canal. What do you have?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have a contingency plan, which involves our federal government and the US federal government.

Mr. Caverly: The OWRC has a plan.

Mr. Haggerty: You have funds, you have—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, this is a plan. In other words, if there is a spill—and there is a certain amount of surveillance of course for spills all the time by aircraft and by boat—but if there is a spill—

Mr. Haggerty: How do you reclaim it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —and we are aware of it, if it is within Ontario's boundaries, we take certain steps to contain it, whether it is by booming or what-have-you.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you any of those facilities available at the present time?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, sure.

Mr. Haggerty: Where are they located?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are in operation mainly in our Great Lakes, certainly in Lake Erie and in Lake Ontario.

Mr. Haggerty: Where are they stationed?

Mr. Caverly: Most of the physical assets belong to the harbour commissions. Toronto Harbour Commission has a stock of this material, so does the Hamilton Harbour Commission, which they will loan out. We have had a number of these. A typical example was a spill outside Kingston where we were able to use these facilities and contain it. The costs incurred we billed against the company which caused the spill.

Mr. Haggerty: What happens if you get an oil spillage or blowout in one of the gas wells in the Great Lakes system? You could get salt water—you could get oil, in fact.

I understand that there was a well that was giving them some problem this past winter. How did they plug that off?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As soon as there is any kind of a spill it is plugged or capped.

Mr. Haggerty: I understand they had a problem last winter.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As far as I know there is no problem in containing any spill of this kind.

Mr. Haggerty: There is not, eh?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I really have no information of any contamination resulting from drilling by these various rigs in the lake.

Mr. Haggerty: Do they carry the necessary equipment for spillage?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, they have an emergency procedure they carry out. Starting with the retention they use—not booming, there is another word, some sort of material that sops up the oil.

Mr. Haggerty: Detergent, is it not, or something?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It could be.

Mr. Haggerty: Straw?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It could be some form of straw, pressed hay or something.

Mr. Haggerty: That is once it hits the beaches though, is it not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are pretty strict. They have a monitoring or metering system so that in the event of a spill they can act pretty quickly here so that it does not get out of hand. They know that they are just not going to stay there if there is any contamination resulting from this type of operation.

Mr. Haggerty: I will leave you this copy of this federal report.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Singer.

Mr. Singer: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can we get back to the mercury pollution? Could someone tell me whether or not the covering method of getting rid of mercury pollution has ever been tried anywhere in the world?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are going through these one by one, are you?

Mr. Singer: We went through the other two about three-quarters of an hour ago, if you want me to refresh your memory.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We are going through one by one, so that this information is on the record for all those who want to see it.

Mr. Singer: You were telling us how wonderful you were and we want to know. You said there were three methods and I asked you the very simple question, has the covering method ever been used successfully anywhere in the world, to your knowledge?

Mr. Watt: Mr. Chairman, may I comment on this? We understand it has been used in Sweden, but we do not know how effective the results were. We do know it can be done, but under the conditions we have in the St. Clair River this could pose quite a problem.

Mr. Singer: All right. Now Mr. Caverly told us the Water Resources Commission deserves commendation for, first, finding a method to ascertain mercury pollution, which was discovered apparently in your laboratories; and secondly, to test the amount of pollution that got into fish.

Now could he expand on that? Has there been any experimentation done of which you are equally proud which would tell us about the feasibility of removing mercury pollution from bodies of water?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That has already been answered.

Mr. Singer: Well, could you answer it again, because I missed it somewhere along the line?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You just rearranged your question.

Mr. Singer: Has there been any experimentation done by the Water Resources Commission which would indicate there is a successful method of removing mercury pollution from our water?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might just answer that, Mr. Chairman, before we call on Mr. Watt. As I have indicated, methods have been recommended to us and the subsequent research that has been carried on by the commission and by federal people indicate that these methods can be adopted, that the various methods are safe and there is a

reasonable expectation of success in using these methods. Some methods are recommended over other methods; but, to answer the hon. member's question, none of these methods has been undertaken by the OWRC.

Mr. Singer: Fine. Since we know there are certain small lakes, particularly in northern Ontario, that apparently have mercury pollution, would it not be reasonable to assume that, if you had any confidence in any of these methods, you would have tried to rid one of these small bodies of water of mercury pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I would say that according to my information that if we are going to remove an accumulation of mercury from a lake or a river, there has to be that large buildup or accumulation that there is, for example, in the St. Clair or that there is at Clay Lake in northwestern Ontario.

As the hon. member knows, there is a certain natural level of mercury that is pretty well prevalent, apparently, in most of the lakes of Ontario. We find mercury reading in fish of up to 0.5 or even up to one part per million in areas where there is no known source of mercury contamination or pollution no plants for example. There is a certain natural level of mercury.

We will not dredge or use any reclamation methods in those areas. We want to be able to go in where there is an accumulation, the removal of which we feel will help lower the extent of mercury in the fish in those waters. So St. Clair is a natural area. Clay Lake is a natural area. As I have indicated in the House, I believe to the hon. member's leader, there is a possibility that we may be involved in some reclamation methods in the Clay Lake area.

However, this is complicated by the fact that the company up there is being sued and that company is alleged to be the main source of the mercury being dumped into Clay Lake. So we have to consider whatever action we take in light of that lawsuit.

Mr. Singer: By whom is that company being sued?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: By the Manitoba government and by a private source.

Mr. Singer: Are there not a number of other small lakes in northern Ontario that have been closed off because of mercury pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, there is no other lake—and I am subject to correction here—but there

is no other lake that I know of that has been completely closed off, that has the degree of mercury accumulation of Clay. There are a number of lakes where we have indicated that there is only "fish for fun." In other words, we are recommending against people eating their catches, but there is no complete ban to fishing that I am aware of in any other area.

Mr. Singer: Would it not be logical, where you have to take the steps of saying only "fish for fun," that you could experiment there in the feasibility of removing mercury pollution?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I just have to reiterate—and as I say, I would like you to speak on this—there has to be an accumulation. We are not sure in many of these areas where we find the fish—we could analyse fish for the degree of mercury over say one or two or three parts per million—that there is necessarily mercury in the bottom of that river.

Because for example in the English River system, we assume that most of that mercury has come from one or two sources at the eastern end of that river, the same as we can identify other sources.

Mr. Singer: Sure, but I must be awfully obtuse, because a few minutes ago Mr. Caverly was saying that we are great people in water resources because we have, by reason of procedures evolved in our laboratories, determined how to find out if mercury is there and determined how it is going into fish.

The question of ridding waters of mercury pollution is equally important. Why have you not experimented in that in your own laboratory?

Mr. Caverly: I think the reason that we have not gone into that in the sense that we have gone into the other is because our people are not experts in dredging. We have had a lot of conversations and discussions with Public Works and private companies which we consider to be experts in dredging. We are experts in laboratory investigations and chemical analyses and that line. We have not taken on staff and developed the expertise in the dredging end.

Mr. Singer: Oh Mr. Caverly, you do not expect me to buy that? Surely your techniques evolved in the laboratory testing would lead you to recommend, if you needed something beyond your laboratory facilities, to the hiring of people skilled in other trades. You have the whole force of the Ontario

government and a budget of \$4 billion behind you. Do not tell me that you just backed away because you are not experts in dredging?

Mr. Caverly: No, no; we did not back away! We have looked into this, but you were asking me have we carried out specific projects on it and my answer is no.

Mr. Singer: And why not?

Mr. Caverly: And I answered you why not.

Mr. Singer: Because you are not experts?

Mr. Caverly: That is right.

Mr. Singer: I see. All right! I suggest to you—and this is going to be my last word—that you know of no way at all of removing mercury pollution from any lake or water body in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You hope, is it?

Mr. Singer: No, it is not I hope. I say that you are dragging a big paint brush over the whole of the seas in order to convince, in the words of your Premier, that you are really doing something, when in fact you are doing damn all. I invite you again to cite me. Why do you not?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We know better than to cite you.

Mr. Chairman: Votes 505 to 507 carried?

Mr. Ruston: I would like to ask about the waterworks line to Chatham. I understand that the raw water is being piped from Lake Erie to the plant in Chatham to be filtered there for the city. Is this generally the procedure you follow? I was under the impression that in most cases you put your plants at the lake and the municipalities on the way to wherever you were going with the main supply line would then be able to obtain the water. In the one for Kent county, I understand you are putting in an intake at Lake Erie and running raw water to Chatham; it seems to me there are places along the way where people could be making use of this water. I wonder what the main reasoning is behind that.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well this was just as a result of negotiations with Chatham. They wanted to build their own plant. We were prepared to go in and build the plant, but they wanted to build their own and they did.

Mr. Ruston: Yes, but you did not do this in London, for instance. You put a big plant up at the other side of Grand Bend and supplied water to everyone on the way down. I think that in the St. Thomas area you are supplying water to Ford and St. Thomas and other areas around there. You have a large one in Essex county where the plant is right near the lake and supplies all the surrounding municipalities, and this one does not seem to be in line with general policy.

Mr. Caverly: Well I think there are two different situations. In the case of London, the city of London was not building a line big enough to serve the intervening municipalities, such as Parkhill and Ailsa Craig, which had water problems. In the case of Chatham we simply indicated that the Thames River, with its ratio of effluent to the natural flow, was getting to the point where they should consider using another source of water supply. This is a common practice of ours; from time to time we have to do this.

It does not necessarily mean that the Thames is polluted, but there are high requirements regarding the quality of raw water and so, in this case, it was a result of negotiations with the city of Chatham. They indicated that they wanted to continue to own and operate their proposed plant and it was out of our negotiations that there was a raw water line up from Lake Erie to Chatham.

There may have to be a couple of small pickup points along the line, but in looking at this we could not see that there was going to be any widespread use of filtered water. And if there was water to be used for irrigation along the line—and I do not know whether there will be or not; you, Mr. Ruston, probably know more about that than I do—it would be cheaper to use raw water for that purpose I do not think you have the sophisticated agriculture that we have in the Leamington, where we can use filtered water for agricultural irrigation.

Mr. Ruston: Well, I am just wondering how we are going to allow some areas to take water off a line that carries raw water. I realize that you mentioned—

Mr. Caverly: It would have to be a small filter plant, probably an unmanned diatomaceous earth filter, or something like that.

Mr. Ruston: Does this not start to build the cost up again, when you start doing this?

Mr. Caverly: I do not think so. I do not think this would add significantly to it.

Mr. Spence: At the present time, you are bringing the water by pumps.

Mr. Caverly: Yes, that is coming from Cedar Springs.

Mr. Spence: There is a place called Charing Cross, about four or five miles away from Blenheim, and I understood that it has been given some consideration about water. Will the pipeline be big enough to take care of Charing Cross if they decide in the future to ask Blenheim to have water from Cedar Springs?

Mr. Caverly: I would have to ask Mr. Cockburn, who is a little more familiar with that: How would Charing Cross be served? Would it be off the Chatham line or off the Blenheim line?

Mr. Sharpe: I will answer that, Mr. Chairman. The raw water line to serve Chatham

goes through Charing Cross. It is very logical and this would be the source of water supply for Charing Cross; and as Mr. Caverly has indicated, we will put a small filter off the line to serve filtered water to the community of Charing Cross.

Mr. Spence: Could you put water in there at about the actual cost of other villages by doing this?

Mr. Sharpe: I think the raw water source will be much cheaper by virtue of Chatham being a customer and paying for the costs of the intake works at the lake and the line through to Chatham.

Mr. Chairman: It being almost 6 o'clock, I believe we should recess. There are other matters taking place that members want to attend.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Energy and
Resources Management

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, May 11, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1971

The committee resumed at 8.10 o'clock, p.m.; Mr. Hamilton in the Chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

(concluded)

Mr. Chairman: We were discussing votes 505, 506 and 507.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Mr. Minister, I understand that the Ontario Water Resources Commission was commissioned a couple of weeks ago to take Abitibi to court for dumping 60 pounds of linseed up at Sturgeon Falls. Is that correct?

Hon. G. A. Kerr (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Yes, that was an old action. I believe the charge was laid back in September or October.

Mr. Martel: For dumping 60 pounds of linseed.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know the—

Mr. Martel: Well, it is clear there.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: —cause of the action. Do you recall that?

Mr. Martel: A mechanical breakdown apparently.

Mr. D. Caverly (General Manager, Ontario Water Resources Commission): Yes, it was a loss of material to the river.

Mr. Martel: I go along with that, Mr. Minister. You also took National Steel, at my suggestion, to court.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do not be provocative.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Where has the member been tonight?

Mr. Martel: There was a conviction involving some \$600. That is correct, too. The point I want to come to, Mr. Minister—and I can assure you I am not apologizing for Abitibi or National Steel—is that in the area of industrial effluent I cannot understand why we can continually go after other companies and the

International Nickel Company, which continues to pollute in at least seven areas according to your own information—after a study which was done in 1967—is never brought into court.

The thing that disturbs me, Mr. Minister, is you say that they are co-operating with us. Are you saying that National Steel was not co-operating?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is quite possible.

Mr. Martel: It is quite possible, but is it a fact?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, you should know. You told us to sue them.

Mr. Martel: Right. I told you, because they just continued to go their merry way. The point I make is that, according to your information—and I want to get the date right; it is February 17, 1971—they were still discharging effluent that was not acceptable to the OWRC in seven different areas. I just checked through a speech I made in 1968, based on the study of 1967, and they are still dumping effluent in the same places four years later.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They will probably continue to dump effluent. It depends on the degree of treatment of that effluent. Most mills will always dump effluent. It is a question of making sure that it is treated.

Mr. Martel: No, no, Mr. Minister. Your own report—and I have it here—for example, it says here about the Copper North Mine, “unacceptable effluent; various modifications being studied.” This is 1971. It is four years after the report of 1967 and they continue to dump material which your department says is not acceptable.

The thing that disturbs me, Mr. Minister, is that you will take the CNR to court, you will take Abitibi to court, you will take National Steel and, by God, you refuse to take International Nickel to court. What the hell is wrong?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think he is out of order.

Some hon. members: Shhhhh.

Mr. Martel: Why is it? And there are at least seven areas which are unacceptable to his department.

An hon. member: Will the hon. member use parliamentary language?

Mr. Martel: I can suggest that the Prime Minister of Canada used a lot worse and he happens to come from your party.

Why is it, Mr. Minister, that they continue to dispose of that stuff which is unacceptable to your department and they are never brought into court? I do not buy that silly excuse that, "Well, they are co-operating with us."

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That, of course, Mr. Chairman, is a very important factor.

Mr. Martel: Oh, George!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If companies are co-operating, if they are following our instructions, if they are doing everything possible with the available technology to properly treat their waste, there is really little percentage in us suing them.

As the hon. member knows, this company is under a ministerial order.

Mr. Martel: Right!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: And that ministerial order calls for the company to do certain things and to make certain expenditures. Now as long as they are under that ministerial order and as long as they are abiding by its terms, really it would be a ridiculous thing to keep suing them.

Mr. Martel: Keep suing them? You have never sued them once.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All right, to sue them while they are—

Mr. Martel: Keep suing them!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Let us not get bogged down in irrelevancies or semantics—

Mr. Martel: No, no. You have just stated, in other words, that your department is willing to allow them to continue to dump effluent in seven different areas which, according to the 1967 report, they should have cleared up. Here it is 1971 and these areas are still not cleared up.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are you saying that there is no improvement since the first report?

Mr. Martel: I am not saying that at all. I would like to know why National Steel has been brought to court.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You cannot make comparisons. They are two different companies.

Mr. Martel: Oh, yes, you can.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They are two different situations. There may have been sort of an intent to pollute. It may have been a complete negligence in their operations to such a degree that a suit was warranted. Certainly they had the local MP running around like a chicken with its head cut off, demanding that they be sued; so maybe he was convincing enough that we should charge them.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, why is it—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But as far as International Nickel is concerned, you keep talking about seven areas where they are dumping effluent. They will probably still be dumping effluent in seven areas 10 years from now.

Mr. Martel: Unacceptable to you?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, not according to the terms of our ministerial order.

It has to be acceptable within the terms of that order. I am going to ask one of my people whether or not they are to a degree that it is acceptable to us and if not, how long it is expected it will be.

Mr. Martel: All right. Let us go on. We will start with North Mine. That was in your 1967 report.

Mr. D. Caplice (Ontario Water Resources Commission): I think all of the material that was sent to the hon. member by the minister is material that we are familiar with from our files. The International Nickel Company's complete waste treatment programme evolved out of a study that was completed in 1967 by the OWRC. They are a large company with 14 mines and a number of smelters and an iron ore recovery plant. It is a very complex operation to understand.

We feel that from the time the company was forwarded this report in 1967 they have made significant progress. There remain some problems connected with certain mining operations. This does not mean that they have done nothing. They have tried, in our view, to overcome these problems, but some of the technology that they have applied has been unsuccessful.

It has been agreed that by the end of this year—and they are submitting quarterly reports to us—that the situations that were pointed out in the letter the minister sent the hon. member would be corrected. It is on this basis that we are dealing with the International Nickel Company.

Mr. Martel: All right. Do you accept everything they tell you as correct? Is that right?

Mr. Caplice: No, we—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Where is this effluent being dumped?

Mr. Martel: There are seven areas. The Coleman Mine—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, no. What receiving water?

Mr. Martel: The Copper Cliff Creek, Nolin Creek.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is that the same area where the municipality is dumping its municipal sewage?

Mr. Martel: The municipality does not have its own system. The system, as I understand it, belongs to the company and they allow the municipality to dump their waste because the company owns everything in Copper Cliff. The municipality really has nothing, whether it be sewer or water or anything. The company owns it all.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean the city of Sudbury has not got its own sewage system?

Mr. Martel: No, no. We are not talking about the city of Sudbury—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am asking you.

Mr. Martel: —we are talking about Copper Cliff. International Nickel owns everything. They own the sewage disposal system; they own everything that is in Copper Cliff. There is not a thing they do not own, except about 48 per cent of the houses.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What I am driving at is that if we are concerned about the quality of the water in that area and of the receiving waters, it has got to be an overall effort— not only by private industry but also by the municipality.

Mr. Martel: But they own the municipal system, Mr. Minister. They own the sewage system that was built in Copper Cliff. The municipality does not own it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am talking about Sudbury.

Mr. Martel: We are not talking about Sudbury. I agree with you, on the Sudbury deal, that the city of Sudbury has got to build a sewage system. They have got to get a dumping system which certainly they have not got. As the minister knows, I have written to him asking what he intends to do. A large section of my constituency has got to accept the fumes and the disposal system which exists in the Sudbury area, which is under ministerial order to stop burning, and Inco continues to burn.

I wrote to the minister recently about that because I have had a number of my constituents complain that the smell is more than they can actually tolerate.

I am not pointing a finger just at the company, Mr. Minister. The city of Sudbury itself leaves a good deal to be desired, because they are ignoring your ministerial order in totality with respect to burning garbage. I am not going to accept what the city of Sudbury is doing. I know one of the councillors has been working his backside off to try to get them to stop burning and the rest of them just ignore it. He has written to me on numerous occasions and I have written the minister as a result. I am not going to defend the city of Sudbury, because they do not want to bring in a sewage system or they do not want to bring in a proper garbage disposal system. They are as guilty as International Nickel.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have got to have some public support generated for the efforts we are making up there.

Mr. Martel: You will get my support, Mr. Minister. I could have backed off on National Steel, which is a company in my own municipality, where all of the employees in that company live. I just am not willing to accept the dumping of effluent by National Steel, Abitibi, International Nickel, or the city of Sudbury.

But the point I am trying to drive home is that you, Mr. Minister, will take on the CNR—they have shown you that they have spent \$50,000, that \$75,000 of the equipment is on order, but they are brought into court. You will take National Steel into court and the court fines them \$600. You will bring them into court.

What upsets me, Mr. Minister, is that no matter what we do—and I can go back to this case that I raised a week ago Monday about where they cut the tailings line—you gave the rather poor excuse, Mr. Minister, that they denied it. Well all you had to do—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are aware there has been no trouble there for the past year and a half, are you not?

Mr. Martel: No, but it was deliberate, Mr. Minister. But the point is—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The fact is that there has been no trouble, no spills, for a year and a half.

Mr. Martel: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, why do you keep flogging it?

Mr. Martel: I have met with the officials of International Nickel here in Toronto. The point I make, Mr. Minister, is that you will take other people into court when you know full well that Inco is still dumping in seven areas which are unacceptable to your department and you will not lay charges. That is the point. You will lay charges against everyone else.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But you just do not understand our programme.

Mr. Martel: Oh, I understand your programme.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You do not understand our programme. As Mr. Caplice just got through telling you, these people are under a ministerial order, and they are doing everything possible to properly treat their effluent. Why would we sue them for something that they cannot do?

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, a golfing friend of mine, before he moved, was head man for the CNR in Capreol—Walter Mitchell—and he was pretty upset when they had \$50,000 worth of work done, and \$75,000 worth of equipment ordered, showed it to your department, and they were still hauled into court. They were dumping oil—not dumping, but it was running through the ground into the river from fueling the diesels, and they had \$50,000 worth of work done and \$75,000 worth of equipment on order which they showed to your department, and you brought them into court.

All I am saying, Mr. Minister, is what is good for the goose is good for the gander. If they had the equipment ordered, and you brought them into court, by God, you have got to bring the International Nickel Company into court for the same reasons. That is all I am saying. You cannot play it both ways.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The CNR is a very poor analogy. They were dumping oil—they know they were dumping oil—into a water course. We asked them to stop. They did not. Only when we laid the charge did they really make that expenditure that you were just talking about.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, I am going to ask Mr. Caverly. Did they not show your department \$50,000 worth of work done already, before the charge was laid? And did they not show you that \$75,000 worth of equipment was on order, and the companies could not produce that equipment?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How long was it on order?

Mr. Caverly: I am going to have to recall from memory here, but I remember them taking the position that they were a federal or a Crown corporation and could not be touched.

Dr. H. Landis (Ontario Water Resources Commission): No, they pleaded guilty.

Mr. Caverly: They pleaded guilty?

Mr. Martel: They had the equipment on order.

Mr. Caverly: Did they have the equipment on order?

Mr. Caplice: The CNR problem as I recall it—and we are going back I guess three years now, or four—

Mr. Caverly: Four or five.

Mr. Caplice: —was really a chronic problem, and the CNR I think existed through the years of 1962, 1963, and 1964—

Mr. Martel: And 1965, 1966 and 1967—until I had Dennis whatisname?—two of your inspectors, McMurray and Luyt.

Mr. Caplice: And then when there was a series of investigations carried out by our staff and a resultant prosecution, the company tabled positive programmes with the OWRC about the waste control situation at that particular location.

If I recall, they figured that on the basis of showing a positive sort of programme to the OWRC that the charge might be withdrawn, and this was refused.

Mr. Martel: Right. That is exactly the point my argument is about, Mr. Minister. Here is a company that showed that it was at last, with a little bit of pressure, willing to move,

and yet we have got seven areas where the International Nickel continues to dump effluent—and your department admits that it is not acceptable—four years after your study—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Why do you not admit you are in the pocket of International Nickel?

Mr. Martel: —and you do not lay a charge against them, Mr. Minister. This is what is irritating. You will charge National Steel, you will charge Abitibi, but, by God, you will not charge Inco. Why?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Because they are under ministerial order.

Mr. Martel: I do not care if they are under 10 ministerial orders. Damn it all, they are still dumping effluent, contrary to what your department accepts.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The only alternative is to close them down.

Mr. Martel: If you were to threaten closing them down, with their \$208 million profit, Mr. Minister, they would clean it up tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Do you want to handle that, Mr. Caplice? Can they stop that tomorrow?

Mr. Caplice: With the programme that they have under way those things will be controlled this year.

International Nickel, I think, has had a number of problems with both air and water pollution. They have devoted scientific efforts to the problems, they have hired consulting engineers, and in this manner they have been no different than a lot of other large corporations in the Province of Ontario with pollution problems. We have not prosecuted every large corporation in Ontario for pollution and I think the hon. member knows that.

Mr. Martel: All right. But why go after the small ones when the big ones continue to do it?

Mr. Caplice: What about the CNR?

Mr. Martel: National Steel is part of a multinational corporation, but a very small company in northern Ontario, and yet you will bring them into court. And I agree with it, I am not defending them at all. By God, they were dumping, and they deserved to be brought into court.

The only point I am trying to make, Mr. Minister, is what is good for the goose is good for the gander. You really cannot deny that position. Four years after your reports indicate they are dumping at—and I have got them numbered—at Copper Cliff North Mine, at Clarabell open pit, at Murray Mine, at the M area of the Copper Cliff central tailings area, at the Frood Stobie concentrator, at the Copper Cliff concentrator and smelter, at the Copper Cliff refinery division. If they continue to dump affluent four years after the study and if you are willing to bring the other companies into court, they too should be treated in the same manner. I just do not think you should treat one differently than you treat the other.

That is the only point I am making. That is what upsets me. It appears as though the government is scared of them. Everyone says "the government is scared of Inco." I bring the point to you. I could have brought a letter in tonight, Mr. Minister, which was mailed on May 5 to the Minister of Mines (Mr. Bernier) about the drinking water, saying:

The Ontario Water Resources Commission and The Department of Mines have been saying over the years—

A copy of the letter was sent to your staff on May 5 saying "we have been told they are going to improve the water," but when top management of Inco says "take out the filters," and the men have to drink the water, and your staff keeps writing us and saying "oh yes, it has cleared up." It is the same damned problem.

Here is top management saying "take the filters out," and the men drink black water. And they just keep leading you people a merry chase.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are we aware of that as well.

Mr. K. H. Sharpe (Ontario Water Resources Commission): The story we get is that they put the carbon filters on the drinking taps and they disappeared. Now management blames the workers, and the workers blame management. The fact is they disappeared. We do not know really—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Has it been corrected?

Mr. Sharpe: No, Mr. Martel raised this two weeks ago at the committee's visit to our lab and at the committee meeting the other night and I investigated. We said we would talk to Dr. Mastromatteo. We have

had this meeting with Dr. Mastromatteo. We are going to see to that—

Mr. Martel: He saw the water though. He admitted the water was black.

What bothers me about this company is that they just seem to think they can do whatever the hell they want. They tell you they are conforming to what you want and they go their merry way, continuing to do what they want.

That is what is so irritating about it, Mr. Minister. It is not a particular vendetta against Inco, it is just that they tell you people one thing and they go on continually doing what they want.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is no reason to do that. We have got an office there now and we have got staff in that office and when there are complaints there is no reason why they cannot be investigated at first hand.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, the minister's department in Sudbury—I have written to you about this. Your man in Sudbury picks up the phone and he phones Charlie Ferguson and he says, "Look Charlie, how are things going?" and Charlie gives him a report and that is the report that comes to you. Now I have that on firsthand information.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Who is Charlie Ferguson?

Mr. Martel: Charlie Ferguson happens to be one of the people at International Nickel. Your man in Sudbury picks up the phone and he phones Charlie and he gets a report from Charlie and that is the report that is sent on to OWRC. He never goes out to inspect the damned thing, he phones Charlie Ferguson to find out if it is right, you know. This is wrong.

That is why I have said to you, Mr. Minister, over and over again, would you kindly draw on the Sudbury and district pollution committee if you do not trust Falowski, or guys like Bill Hrinivich, who are not working at Inco, who are managers for companies in Sudbury, who know full well what is going on, rely on them to provide your department with assistance.

You could have 10 men in the Sudbury area and you could not cover it all. You just could not. The company is too widespread. One man just cannot cover it. And I have suggested to you over and over again, kindly use these other people who are vitally interested, who have no axe to grind—like Hrinivich—to do some of the investigation, because your man could not cover it all if he tried.

And it is just a little irritating when people tell us that they phone Charlie Ferguson to get the information and that is the report that is sent to OWRC. Naturally you are going to get a whitewash and I think the drinking water two weeks ago is a prime example.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You will appreciate that as far as drinking water from a fountain in a plant is concerned, this is a matter of health.

Mr. Martel: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is not an OWRC problem.

Mr. Martel: For 2½ years, Mr. Minister, we have been getting assurances that the drinking water condition has been improved and we present black water to Dr. Mastromatteo.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is because the filters were removed.

Mr. Martel: Who ordered the filters removed?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is what we would like to know.

Mr. Martel: The last letter that was sent to the Minister of Mines and Northern Affairs indicated top management was right there when the filters were removed. We know that the drinking water is the same drinking water that the residents of Copper Cliff have. It is the pipes within the plant that are so old and outdated and that is why you have got an air management problem. Their equipment is so old and out of date. I can appreciate that. But they lie to you; they lie like hell, and you accept it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Oh not necessarily!

Mr. Martel: Oh really you do, because I can show you the stack of correspondence from your department and The Department of Mines saying that the drinking water condition has been improved, and it has not in 2½ years. I would just as soon drop the issue and never have to speak about it again than to be taking time to speak about the dam thing.

I should think the men are entitled to decent drinking water. I just think the men are entitled to decent working conditions and I think it is time you hauled these jokers into court, because we can go back to the tailings area incident where they cut the tailings area, where we sent you pictures, you

could have questioned the men who actually cut the tailings line. They denied it all to you. That is what you said the other night, they denied it. Well did you question the men who actually cut that 10 feet of tailings line out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The fact that we specifically amended our legislation to deal with problems like this—

Mr. Martel: I am delighted.

Hon. Mr. Kerr:—where they have to report this type of a spill, I think was quite a remedy and you will recall there are no spills now.

Mr. Martel: You will recall in the House I complimented the department on that—that we had to have that sort of thing because they just totally ignored you. I am only concerned if they continue in seven areas, which leads me to one last problem. Again—and I worked with Mr. Caplice on this problem—it is being resolved slowly. I appreciate everything that Mr. Caplice has done. I have been meeting with him for 2½ years now, or three years, on this problem. The fog condition—we know what creates it, we have taken the tests along with your department; we have taken the temperature readings; why is it they continue every now and then to decide to dump the boilers in the middle of the night now? They do not do it in the daytime any more, they dump the boilers at night. And yet the last incident—I wrote a number of letters to you, I have them here—on December 26 there were four accidents that night because of the fog.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How many?

Mr. Martel: Four. And they know every damn time they dump their boilers with hot water that there is going to be a fog so thick that you cannot see beyond the headlights of your car. They do it at night. Mr. Minister, that creek used to freeze. I presented documents in the House, affidavits in the House, that people used to skate on that street. Now they are responsible. You can talk about atmospheric conditions playing a role—I am sure they do because the creek does not freeze—but the important point is that the creek used to freeze and it does not any longer.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What is the story on that?

Mr. Caplice: I really feel that the hon. member attributes the fog condition perhaps solely to the warm water discharges to the

Copper Cliff creek and this cause has never been fully agreed to by other parties who have looked at this problem. I think if it is as clear cut as the hon. member says there would appear to be grounds on the part of the car insurance companies as such to get back at the party that is alleged to be responsible. But when anybody looks at this situation the overall problem appears to be attributable to a number of factors, and I do not agree with the hon. member that it is as clear as he says. We have argued this before, as he says, and we have talked about it before and he has one view and others have other views on the problem as to its cause. There is a fog problem in that low-lying area on Highway 17, and nobody denies this.

Mr. Martel: I only make one point, Mr. Chairman. The creek used to freeze, and since the International Nickel Company started dumping effluent—and particularly since 1960 when they put the sewage system in, which is part way on the stream—we have had the fog. But the point is that the creek used to freeze and people used to skate from Copper Cliff right down to Kelly Lake. The creek no longer freezes and consequently we have fog.

What I blame it on is the fact that the creek does not freeze any longer. And because it does not freeze any longer it would have to indicate that there is something in the water now which was not there previously which does not allow that body of water to freeze, and of course it has to be the various chemicals and so on which are emptied into that body of water. Therefore it is not a phenomenon of nature that it does not freeze, but it is something that was put there by man.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What do you say they are dumping in there?

Mr. Martel: They dump hot water. Every now and then when we have the fog conditions because we dump hot water when they are cleaning out the boilers and so on, and when they do this the hot water mixed in with the cold water of the creek itself, because it does not freeze, creates the fog. It is partially responsible; the atmospheric condition might have something to do with it; but the very fact is that it does not freeze any longer.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: That is because of the hot water surely?

Mr. Martel: No the hot water does not stop it from freezing. They only empty the boilers

once a month, or once every two months. The point is it does not freeze any longer. It used to.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Why?

Mr. Martel: Why does it not freeze any longer? That is a good question. That is the answer to the whole thing, why does it not freeze any longer.

Mr. Caverly: Is not the effluent from the sewage plant going in there at all?

Mr. Martel: Oh yes. Since 1960 when they built the sewage system, but it has not been freezing for a long time. It is when they dump the hot water added to the sewage—and I know it is a combination of factors—the point I make is that it used to freeze.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Are your winters as cold up there as they used to be?

Mr. Martel: We had days of 32 below this winter, and you know it is pretty cold at 32 below.

Mr. R. K. McNeil (Elgin): Will it freeze at 32?

Mr. Martel: It usually freezes at 32 below. Unfortunately it does not freeze that creek at 32 below.

Mr. Caplice: The flow has increased a lot more than it used to be when it froze.

Mr. Martel: From what though?

Mr. Caplice: The tailings overflow partially reaches the creek, the sewage treatment plant and the Copper Cliff smelter pond does overflow to it. The pond overflow will be removed this year, which will remove a large source of the warm water, but once a creek reaches a turbulent flow—such as in parts of the Niagara River it does not freeze over easily.

Mr. Martel: A 50-foot creek cannot be compared to the Niagara River.

Mr. Caplice: No, but at times there is a good turbulent flow in that creek from effluent discharged into it. Now when you add this type of flow condition to the warm water conditions which have existed in it you have changed the creek from the days when people skated on it, and nobody is arguing about it.

Mr. Martel: Yes, but who is responsible for the flow? This is the point I am making.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, with very great respect, is this not

repetition and repetition and repetition? I have listened to this and listened to it and listened to it. Surely there is a termination to this repetition?

Mr. Martel: Has the minister had a creek which has caused—

Mr. Allan: I have listened to the same things—how many—16 times?

Mr. Martel: I do not care if it is 20 times.

Mr. Allan: I do not think you need to listen 16 times.

Mr. Martel: I do not care if you listen 20 times. Are your people getting into car accidents? Have there been 11 deaths in your area as a result of this creek not—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I believe we are getting outside of the estimates.

Mr. Martel: No we are not, we are on industrial waste.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: We are talking about 11 people dying and 168 accidents in eight years.

Mr. Allan: I have heard all that before and I think it is an exaggeration.

Mr. Martel: If you do not want to listen, there is the door.

Mr. Allan: I know the door as well as you do. But do you know?

Mr. McNeil: You have misled the House so many times.

Mr. Martel: Oh why do you not take a pill?

Mr. Lawlor: They do not know whether to believe you or not.

Mr. Martel: Thanks.

Mr. Lawlor: If I were on the government side of the House I would give you every penny to spend.

Mr. Martel: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Go on, Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: I have come to the last point—well one minor point—there will be nothing after that. What are the effects of iron oxide and SO₂ on the bodies of water?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mention that that pond is not going to be used after this year?

Mr. Martel: I have been raising it since I came into the House.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Sixteen times.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Just as a by-the-way here, if there have been the number of accidents that you claim—

Mr. Martel: Yes—168 in eight years.

Hon. Mr. Kerr:—I cannot understand why, in respect to insurance claims, there has not been a claim against Inco for causing this action.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, can I give you an analogy to it?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not want an analogy.

Mr. Martel: Just a second, there are a number of cases where people whose car has been outside the International Nickel Company holdings and where the SO₂ has gone on the body of the car—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are changing the subject.

Mr. Martel: No, no, I am not changing the subject at all—where the SO₂ has fallen on the car and these people have had to have paint jobs, complete paint jobs from start to finish, and the insurance companies have never taken Inco to court. Never. I do not know why, I really do not know why.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: The insurance companies are settling all these accident claims?

Mr. Martel: I know of 15 in the town of Capreol alone, with Mazzuca Motors, where they have had to repaint entire cars from start to finish because of the bubbling that comes on the coats of paint. I have written to General Motors trying to get them to take them to court, and you know what they do rather than take them to court? They repaint the cars at cost to General Motors.

Mr. McNeil: Why?

Mr. Martel: It is cheaper than taking Inco into court, Mr. Minister. They repaint the cars.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You say there are some deaths? Now that does not make sense.

Mr. Martel: There have been 11 deaths in that eight-year period.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If Inco is the cause of that, I cannot imagine them not being involved in some sort of litigation.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, there were 168 accidents from 1960 to 1968.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right, right!

Mr. Martel: There were four on the day I wrote to you—December 26 of this year. There were four accidents alone that night.

Mr. McNeil: Of this year?

Mr. Martel: Of this year.

An hon. member: I thought you said this past year.

Mr. Martel: There were four accidents on December 26; there were four accidents alone on that night.

People that I represent suffer every time. Women phone Inco and they phone the police and they say, "Look, the fog is so bad. Stop our husbands from coming though that fog." It is of vital concern.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean they see the fog at home?

Mr. Martel: It stretches for about four miles. The worst part is just west of—

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, you must have gone on now for 10 minutes, when do we stop?

Mr. Martel: Well, it is not your people who have been affected.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Three-quarters of an hour.

Mr. Martel: These happen to be people I represent who are affected. I am sure that Mr. Caplice can verify that I am not talking through my hat, that the fog is so bad you cannot see past the headlights of your car. Is that right, Dennis—when it occurs?

Mr. Caplice: The fog is bad when it occurs, but not—

Mr. Allan: We have fogs too.

Mr. Martel: You do not have a fog that even starts. There is no comparison to this. This is a fog like you have never seen a fog.

Mr. Chairman: Carried?

Mr. Martel: Could I ask one more question?

An hon. member: One more, just one.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, what are the effects on Wanapitei Lake of the quantities of iron oxide and SO_2 that go into Wanapitei Lake?

Mr. Caplice: The effects on the bodies of water in the area are being documented by a committee that has been set up by The Department of Lands and Forests, OWRC and the air management branch. In the lake you mention, Lake Wanapitei, as I recall it there are not too many adverse effects showing up in the lake as such. But there has been a study conducted, I think, by people at McMaster University—I believe some of the results have been sent to you—and this study does show a fallout effect.

Whether this effect is any more severe than the fallout effect in an area the size of Metropolitan Toronto appears to be debatable. They are now turning up levels of iron and other substances in snow samples right around Metropolitan Toronto that are cause for concern.

I think that the initial study in the Sudbury area has just been completed and will be released shortly. It is debatable as to just what the effect is on Lake Wanapitei. It is a very large lake.

Mr. Martel: One of the problems, of course, with Wanapitei is that it is eventually going to be the source of drinking water for the city of Sudbury—that is my concern for Wanapitei. If it is going to be the source of drinking water for the city of Sudbury—and it has to be within the next two or three years—and if, as The Department of Lands and Forests have told me, even the fish have difficulty reproducing in Wanapitei, what are the adverse effects with respect to making this ultimately or eventually the body of water for supplying the city of Sudbury with drinking water? That is of real concern.

Mr. Sharpe: It is, but if it cannot be properly treated, it will not be the source of drinking water.

Mr. Martel: What else can you use?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not know whether you would have to have pipe water or—

Mr. Martel: They have to pipe it eight miles to Sudbury now.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: It will not be used as a drinking water supply if treatment does not make it safe.

Mr. Martel: Can treatment make it safe? This is what I am talking about. Can we make this body of water safe? It is the only source of water large enough to provide the city of Sudbury with drinking water. That is why I am concerned about the fish and—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think Mr. Caplice indicated that there is a study under way; there is an analysis under way.

Mr. Caplice: Yes, there is an analysis of a lot of data that has been collected up there over the last year, and it is hoped that this study will be available in the next weeks ahead. As I have said to the hon. member, it is debatable as to whether the levels that are being found up there in snow samples and lake samples are very different than what is being found in urban areas elsewhere in the province.

The situation, I think, is going to be in large part brought under the control of the air pollution control programmes now under way. There is going to be more SO_2 taken out and more iron oxide taken out.

Mr. Martel: You heard last weekend of a dog that is turning red from the iron oxide.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Is that an Irish setter?

Mr. Martel: No, a black dog. It was turning red from iron oxide.

Mr. Caplice: Yes, we have had dogs turn red in southern Ontario also.

Mr. Martel: It is that bad. You can have the side of your house exposed to Falconbridge painted red for nothing. Therefore, I say the quantities are considerable. You can have one side of your house red and the other side white.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You could put a maple leaf in the middle.

Mr. Martel: That is what I am concerned about. I just know this has to be the drinking source and I am a little concerned that unless there is some way of putting it through a filtration plant before it reaches the city of Sudbury, that it will not be able to be used.

Mr. Caverly: They will have to filter it anyway; we require filtration of any surface water supply. The quality there is satisfactory right now but our concern is to make sure it continue to be.

Mr. Martel: That is what I am concerned about too.

Mr. Caverly: That is what this committee is set up to do, because this is one of the things we are getting into now.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ruston.

Mr. Ruston: On the primary treatments plants, where you are going to treat to try to get phosphates out, is this going to have any bearing on secondary treatment? Or do you feel that this in effect will serve a dual purpose by perhaps cutting down some of the primary treatments and the secondary will not actually be necessary? What do you figure on that now?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You can take the Windsor plant, for example. That is a new primary treatment plant. Windsor is one of those areas where we hope they will have nutrient removal installed in their plant. I understand that this can be done in a primary plant of this kind.

There is some question—it is not entirely to the satisfaction of the commission that this would be as good as a new modern secondary treatment plant. It does not, shall we say, treat to a greater extent all types of effluent that might come into that plant.

But as far as phosphates and phosphorus and nitrogen and things like that are concerned, the nutrient removal will have at least as much effect as a secondary plant for those particular contaminants. There is no plan to substitute a programme of moving from primary to secondary with just nutrient removal.

Mr. Ruston: I suppose this would be the same thing in areas like Leamington, where they have it strictly primary too, and I think the H. J. Heinz Company now have built an addition to their treatment, is that right?

Mr. Caverly: We will have to look at each one individually; you cannot generalize on this specific one. We do know from our research that you get higher efficiency when you put in nutrient removal. This degree of treatment—which is half way between primary and secondary—will satisfy the treatment requirements in that particular place; primary treatment with nutrient removal will be satisfactory. But in other locations we may have to go into full secondary treatment. You just cannot give a blanket reply on the question.

Mr. Ruston: On the water project into Blenheim that was mentioned earlier, this is strictly a provincial operation done under, what—46(a)?

An hon. member: Forty-six.

Mr. Ruston: Section 46(a) of the Act, where they supply the water to Blenheim, and what is the rate?—71 cents or something, or is it 91? I think in the last report I saw it was 71 per 1,000. Is this rate going to be about the same along the line, too, for people on the line, or will you have to have a variation? Do you know offhand?

Mr. P. Cockburn (Ontario Water Resources Commission): The rate is actually broken down into a rate out of the Cedar Springs plant and then a rate for the pipeline between Cedar Springs and Blenheim, which is really the rate which you are talking about. And anybody taking water off that line will pay that rate. Then, if there is a secondary line required to take it somewhere else, such as down to Erie Beach or somewhere like that, there would be additional charges on that, but founded on the rate of that line.

Mr. Ruston: The rate we are speaking of is just taken off the line.

I think we are having a meeting with your commission tomorrow, with the village of Comber and Tilbury North and Tilbury West. I was hoping that this could be put in on a similar basis, but I understand that we will have to discuss that tomorrow, so I do not think there will be any use in getting involved in that.

On the sewage works in Dutton, do you have anything on the status of that one at the present time?

Mr. Cockburn: Final plans and specifications have just been under review and we are hoping to close tenders the first week in July. In other words, we will advertise for them sometime in June and open them sometime early in July.

Mr. Lawlor: Mr. Chairman, I promise you not to be too concrete. I promise you to be as completely rampaging as possible and I shall lead up to the singular point that I am interested in toward the end of my remarks.

First of all, from over here in the government side of the House, I feel—

Mr. Ruston: Dreamer!

Mr. Lawlor: —that due congratulations have not yet been extended to the member for Sudbury East who is performing his function precisely as it ought to be done by a member of the opposition. We over here appreciate that on occasion.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are not going to get renominated.

Mr. Lawlor: Let me tell you—here is an incisive member, penetrating, almost a Billie Sunday, or a Billy Graham even.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Can we get him off this subject and onto water?

Mr. Lawlor: No, no, I am on water.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: True, he is—and I congratulate him on the business of Inco. Inco is the coddled darling of this government in areas of taxation. I experienced it on the Smith committee, all the way through; and in the area of befogging foggy bottoms, they managed to escape the more trenchant surveillance of this particular government. They escaped every time and all along the road.

The minister says—I heard him say, a moment ago—why do they not sue Inco because of the highway conditions and the fog that exists in this particular thing? The minister well knows, as a lawyer, that it is almost virtually impossible so to do.

It is the same with Dow the other day. You get a crosscurrent of causality—the whole law of tort is concerned—if you can get a single cause to a particular situation, you are fine. The minute you get a diversity of causes diverging on to a central point, the defendant in the action says: “I am only responsible for one. The other 99 are somebody else’s, and my liability is cut down co-terminously in the same measure, so I end up paying nothing and I end up being responsible for nothing.”

Inco knows that. It knows how difficult it is for the individual citizen to be able to make this thing stick in a court action. Anybody who, as an individual citizen, would try to contest the matter right up to the Supreme Court of Canada, would be a damn fool in terms of cost or in any other way.

The same thing is true of the insurance companies. It is far cheaper to pay out than to contest. This is all the way along the line. This is a deep thing and this is built into our contemporary system and you ought to be resisting that.

But to come to the main purport of my remarks. I have often, very late at night, woken up and thought, “I wonder if they are dumping at this hour?” I would like to know, and this is the only opportunity we get in this Legislature of really confronting the minister.

This business of dumping late at night; precisely what controls have you got over that? That is what I want to hear. I hear in East York, reading in the newspaper, that the Don River is polluted by certain industry, late at night.

People phone me in my own riding and say that this condition obtains in Etobicoke Creek, or in Mimico Creek, or in the Credit, late at night. Have you got a surveillance staff around? Are they owl-like in their intelligence, or are they simply awake during the daylight hours? Do they work a straight eight-hour day? What precisely is the degree of their responsibility?

Does not industry thumb their nose at you and make damned fools of you in pretending, during 18 hours of the day, to operate in a particular fashion, but when the doldrums strike at three o’clock or four o’clock or five o’clock in the morning, do they not completely undermine anything that you are trying to do?

I suspect this is very often the case. I want to know from you tonight precisely what steps have you taken. How do you guard against that? Precisely what is your departmental policy in this particular regard, touching the dumping of pollutants into the water courses of this province?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Our policy is, of course, if we can catch the culprits, why we will take action.

Mr. Lawlor: Have you men out in the twilight hours?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: There is a certain degree of 24-hour surveillance, particularly when we have, by complaint or otherwise, reason to believe that there is, shall we say, a continued practice of dumping during the early hours of the morning.

Mr. Lawlor: Give me instances. How many times have you caught people in this particular area?

Mr. Caverly: We have what we call robot monitoring in certain areas. I think the best example is on the St. Clair River below Sarnia, where this machine is sampling, 24

hours per day, a certain number of parameters. This gives us some idea if somebody is dumping waste. The parameters are temperature and pH and others. If the monitor shows dumping we will go in and try to catch them. It is a cat and mouse game.

Mr. Lawlor: Good for you. All right, and your robot monitors—how many of them are situated around the province?

Mr. Caverly: They are very expensive. They are over \$500,000 apiece.

Mr. Lawlor: Have you got a robot monitor—monitor—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lawlor: Those chiropractors really get you down. Have you got one on the Humber?

Mr. Caverly: No, we have not.

Mr. Lawlor: Why not?

Mr. Caverly: We have got two on the Ottawa.

Mr. Lawlor: Have you got one on the Grand?

Mr. Caverly: At the mouth, is there one at the mouth?

Mr. Lawlor: How many have you got?

Mr. Caverly: I think we have people out at night.

Mr. Lawlor: No, no, no! Stick to—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: How many monitors? Say how many monitors we have.

Mr. J. Barr (Ontario Water Resources Commission): Four!

Mr. Lawlor: Four, and where are they located?

Mr. Caverly: One in the St. Clair, two in the Ottawa, and one on the Grand.

Mr. Lawlor: And none in the Metropolitan Toronto area?

Mr. Caverly: No.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Caverly: No, the member for Lake-shore has raised a good question. We do take steps to try to catch them. Christmas Eve is a beautiful time to let something go.

Mr. Martel: That is the season of Christianity.

Mr. Caverly: Yes, and we have caught people dumping sludge on Christmas Eve.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: One of the things that I think should be said here—

Mr. Lawlor: Do some of them save up all year around just for Christmas Eve, so to speak?

An hon. member: I would not!

Mr. Chairman: Yes, Mr. Yakabuski.

Mr. Lawlor: No, no. The minister is answering, please!

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Mr. Caverly said that OWRC has two monitors on the Ottawa. I was quite interested in this because there are four throughout the province and two of them are on the Ottawa. Is that correct? Why would you have two on the Ottawa?

Mr. Martel: Bad actors!

Mr. Yakabuski: Because if my knowledge is correct, we have few, if any, offenders on the Ontario side of that river.

Mr. Caverly: Well this is part of the Ottawa River survey. As you know, this survey is in its final stages and we will be moving those monitors elsewhere shortly.

Mr. Yakabuski: Those monitors on the Ottawa are there not so much to track down and catch certain offenders, but they are involved in a certain survey?

Mr. Caverly: That is true. You are quite correct. The specific use there is a little different than on the St. Clair.

Mr. Yakabuski: On the St. Clair and on the Thames, or wherever the other one is that you have, they are there more to track down offenders?

Mr. Caverly: To give us an idea what is happening after dark, yes; or when we are not there.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Nothing happens on the Ottawa after dark, is that what you are telling us?

Mr. B. Newman: Are they checked daily?

Mr. Caverly: They are on a recording chart.

Mr. B. Newman: Oh I see. What is the cost of one of these monitors?

Mr. Caverly: Over \$50,000!

Mr. B. Newman: Fifty thousand dollars?

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Are they mobile? Can they be moved from one area to another very easily?

Mr. Caverly: Well they are not mobile in that you can just pick them up. They are mobile, but you would have to set them up again. They are housed. If you have seen a flow recorder on a stream, there is a certain amount of installation to it.

Our long-range plan, of course, is to tele-meter this material into Toronto, but that is a long while off.

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Caverly, may I ask one more question concerning your monitors on the Ottawa? Is any other jurisdiction sharing the cost of that survey or whatever it may be?

Mr. Caverly: I am sorry?

Mr. Yakabuski: Is there any other jurisdiction sharing the cost of those monitors in the survey on the Ottawa River?

Mr. Caverly: I do not think so.

Mr. Yakabuski: Not the Quebec government?

Mr. Caverly: No.

Mr. Yakabuski: Well that sounds awfully strange. Why should the Province of Ontario—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Yakabuski: Just a moment, you had your say. Just hold it.

Why should the Province of Ontario foot the entire bill for this survey on a boundary water? Why are the Quebec government and the government of Canada not sharing in this cost?

Mr. Caverly: We approached Ottawa and the Quebec government with regard to cost-sharing in that operation. The Ottawa River survey was a shared survey with Quebec. It was not shared in the sense that we put all the money in a pot and divided it, but the Quebec people did certain parts of the survey, we did certain parts of the survey.

Part of our share of the survey was the robot monitoring, and that is why we are paying.

Mr. Yakabuski: They have been operating in other—

Mr. Caverly: Well they have been operating in other phases or fields of it.

Mr. Yakabuski: Then you feel quite safe in saying that the cost is to some extent being shared?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Not for this particular robot monitor.

Mr. Yakabuski: But the overall survey.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We have a report now. It has been published, it has been released and it recommends doing certain things on both sides of the river. We are having a meeting later this week between Quebec, Ottawa and Ontario to decide how the cost is going to be split to carry out the works necessary to save the Ottawa River, you might say, just in that way. So there is no question that all levels of government will be doing their share.

Up until now there is no question but that Ontario has been doing most as far as treating its own wastes is concerned, but in respect to this survey, that was paid for jointly between Quebec and Ontario, we assume the recommendations in that survey will be carried out on a joint or even a tri-party basis. I am hoping that whatever work has to be done will be done.

Mr. Yakabuski: I am not through yet, I just want to pursue that a little further.

Now when this is all done and certain recommendations are made—and I feel that Quebec, Ontario and the federal people will be participating—we understand by statements made by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons in Ottawa that the federal government is going to step in and clean up certain sides of the Ottawa. Now in the Hull area, is this not true?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well they are going to help finance the sewage treatment in Hull.

Mr. Yakabuski: The point I am getting at, from the whole picture and the whole puzzle put together, and in view of what the Province of Ontario has done over the years to maintain relatively clean inputs into the Ottawa River from the Ontario side, and in view of the fact there is a good chance of

the federal government spending huge sums to clean up that other side, I have stated on previous occasions, and I say so again tonight, I think there is a refund coming to the Province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: At least that should be taken into consideration.

Mr. Yakabuski: I feel it should and I do think that is something the minister's department should keep in mind when all the negotiations between various jurisdictions and the federal government are completed.

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): Why do you not ask Diefenbaker about that?

Mr. Yakabuski: They did not even know about pollution in Diefenbaker's day. The member did not know the word until about two years ago.

Mr. Lawlor: What do you mean, ask Diefenbaker about it? Diefenbaker is one of the main forms.

Mr. Yakabuski: We are not going to let you go there next year.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Lakeshore.

Mr. Lawlor: Am I back on? Thank you very much. Somebody stole the floor from me, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You were sharing it.

Mr. Lawlor: I do not want to be totally obnoxious, but I would like to be as obnoxious as possible. I would like to pursue what I asked previously, namely, just how many prosecutions have been undertaken. I think you will agree this is one of the more nefarious forms of reducing or undermining your legislation, this business of late night or early morning dumping.

I want to know concretely, not just vague vagaries as we get usually, but concretely, how many prosecutions have been launched out of this particular aspect of polluting.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think the problem, Mr. Chairman, may be that we have not distinguished in our list of prosecutions whether it was by night or by day, but I will try to find out.

Mr. Lawlor: Do you not get double the fine by night? If you do not, you had better amend your legislation.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You see, we have a total of 21 convictions here but we have nothing

to indicate that the offence took place at night. This is the problem.

Mr. Lawlor: I see.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I would like in all fairness to answer the hon. member's question properly. As you know, we discussed this very briefly under the waste management vote. One of our problems, particularly in the Metro area, is the dumping of industrial liquid waste. Now since the closing of the Stouffville dump, in our opinion unnecessarily, there is no local industrial liquid waste site to dispose of this liquid. They have to dispose of it on site. With many of these industries, in some way we are requiring them to do that, and they have been doing it since the closing of the Stouffville dump.

Mr. Lawlor: When will the new plant be in operation?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This year. Until we get this new plant in operation some time this year, it is rather difficult for us to enforce the regulations as much as we would like to. Now there have been instances where we have had reports or complaints about dumping by such-and-such a company or such-and-such a trucking firm. We have men on site following those trucks. In those instances they proved fruitless. There was not illegal dumping. There was not dumping in a manhole or in a river like the Don or the Humber. But I am sure it is going on because there is about 50 tons or 50,000,000 gallons being generated in this area, Metro, in a year and we are satisfied that there are not facilities available to accept all that. So we have got to get this plant built, and then of course we will have the type of 24-hour surveillance that is necessary. But I am satisfied really that there will not be the dumping because the facility will be available.

Mr. Lawlor: I want to make one further statement before I am finished and I ask for your indulgence, Mr. Chairman, in this particular thing.

What the minister does in this particular area is he relies basically upon the citizenry at large, upon the individual citizen, to report this. He says to me: "Well if we get a report on this particular thing, we have inspectors who will go out and safeguard the issue."

And I say to you that generally speaking—and I am engaged in an enterprise at the moment of which the minister is well aware,

I want to make one statement with some degree of emotion, if I may say so—you know that the citizen body is heavily weighed against pollution. In terms of seeking to enforce anti-pollution measures you place a great deal of insistence and reliance upon the individual citizens, their conscience, their sense of public responsibility; but you do damned little, nor do any of the municipalities do anything, with respect to supporting that citizen body, ratepayers or otherwise, with respect to forwarding those particular types of proposals.

We fight today before the municipal board with \$700. We are up against, for instance, high-priced counsel making \$1,000 a day from Metro Toronto and from the township of Etobicoke with their millions, with their secondary echelon, with all the resources they have at their disposal to call witnesses in from Boston and throughout the whole world; and we have nothing. What the hell are we supposed to do?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, but you are using a bad example. You are talking about citizenry that are fighting an anti-pollution device.

Mr. Lawlor: This group of ratepayers who have not any money, any resources, any expert help.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: In this way you might say you want the pollution to go on?

Mr. Lawlor: Your department should give some largesse, some credence, some financial support to citizen bodies who are deeply moved and conscious—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What, to fight the building of an incinerator that is so necessary in this area?

Mr. Lawlor: You are as obtuse as the rest of them, you know. There are certain forms of enlightenment. If you will fall from your horse, you may become like Paul from Tarsus and then understand that these incinerators as such are going to be a curse to this community within five years and you are going to regret every move you made in this particular regard. However, we are off the vote and I have said what I wanted to say about support to citizen bodies.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: We make it a point, Mr. Chairman, of supporting many citizen bodies, particularly those that are involved in legitimate anti-pollution causes.

Mr. Martel: Would you say that those—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As a matter of fact we finance them to a certain degree. Certainly we finance Pollution Probe in various projects and we will finance other citizen groups.

Mr. Lawlor: What about this project?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, but I mean you are using a bad example.

Mr. Martel: On this point, how much assistance, Mr. Minister, has been given to the Sudbury and district pollution control committee over the years?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I could not give you that offhand.

Mr. Martel: I can, I can!

Mr. Lawlor: You never ask a question unless you do know the answer.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, if we change the director—

Mr. Martel: That has nothing to do. You know, Mr. Minister, he has done more good for your department. He brought KVP to court or Brown papers, got a conviction. He spent \$750 out of his own pocket doing it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I do not want to bring him into this debate.

Mr. Martel: No. You say you give assistance. Would you give some assistance that would utilize that body in Sudbury?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If their methods are constructive, if they are sincere about dealing with pollution matters, we will be happy to help them.

Mr. Martel: You know Mr. Hrinivich is sincere; so is Paul. Well all right; give them a little assistance!

Mr. Chairman: The estimates of the Ontario Water Resources Commission carried? Mr. Deacon.

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the minister what progress or what improvements have been made in the last 15 years in the sewage treatment processes utilized by the Water Resources Commission?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean—

Mr. Deacon: What major changes or improvements have there been in the processes that the Water Resources Commission utilizes now in its waste treatment?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You mean the process, the engineering and this type of thing?

Mr. Deacon: The engineering, yes.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Would Mr. Caverly comment on that?

Mr. Caverly: Well the processes, the standard secondary type of treatment is the activated sludge that is used universally all over the world. This was originally developed in the early 1900s. It is still the best. I think the developments have been in additional treatment, such as tertiary treatment and nutrient removal. There have been a number of new processes that can be tailored to exact treatment requirements.

If you are treating 100 million gallons of sewage a day a few per cent difference in the degree of removal that you require means a substantial capital outlay. There has been quite a bit of progress made in that area; but maybe this is not what the hon. member is talking about.

Mr. Deacon: You mention that the basic primary and secondary processes are those that have been used for a good many years, several generations. I was wondering if there had been any work done to find a completely different method of treatment that would eliminate these very fine tertiary treatments and more expensive treatments that are now required to remove, I gather the most objectionable things which are the phosphates and the nitrates. Why are we carrying through to these finer processes now, the more expensive procedures? Is it not to remove the—

Mr. Caverly: As far as Ontario is concerned, we have more population here now and therefore we are going to have to have higher degrees of treatment.

Mr. Deacon: Right!

Mr. Caverly: I was going to use the words "as simple as that"; but it is not quite that simple. We are requiring higher degrees of treatment to maintain water quality. The member for York Centre has been around the Metro area for quite a few years and you have seen the development on such rivers as the Don and the Humber and that we need higher degrees of treatment to—

Mr. Deacon: Have we ourselves been undertaking any experimental projects to find or develop new approaches to the problem?

Mr. Caverly: In our research division, when we hear of something in the way of a

new treatment process and if it looks promising from the information that we have, we will investigate it. I think a very good example of that was the oxidation ditch which was developed in Holland. It had not been used in Ontario and—

Mr. Deacon: Is that the old type of sewage lagoon or is that—

Mr. Caverly: No, this is a type that looks like a racetrack. It is a circular ditch. It is a modification of the activated sludge process; but instead of putting in compressed air oxygen is introduced by a rotating brush, something like a street sweeper. This had proved to be very satisfactory in Holland, especially for the treatment of milk waste. We found that there were some installations in BC and Oregon and we sent our research people out and evaluated them for some time. We found them to be quite successful and now we have several of these installations in Ontario. I use this as a point that we are always on the lookout for new and more efficient processes.

Mr. Deacon: So then as far as the problem in the Toronto area is concerned I gather one of the major problems you have at the present time is the amount of effluent going into the receiving waters. For that reason your inclination has been to build all of the plants on the lake where there is a large body of water to receive the effluent waste. Is that correct?

Mr. Caverly: This has been basically it. When you do that of course you have to be very careful that there is adequate capacity in the lake to assimilate the treated effluent and that there is no effect on such things as the waterworks intakes or the bathing beaches.

We had the Great Lakes Institute of the University of Toronto carry on a two-year study on that very point, to give us information to ensure that there was no effect from the outfalls of the main Toronto sewage plants on waterworks intakes and bathing beaches.

Mr. Deacon: What are the ingredients in the effluent that are harmful to the lake that you have to worry about—or to any of the receiving waters?

Mr. Caverly: Unless you get into a sophisticated tertiary type of treatment, the conventional secondary type of plant has an

efficiency somewhere in the neighbourhood of 90 to 95 per cent removal.

Mr. Deacon: Of what?

Mr. Caverly: Of organic material, polluting material.

Mr. Deacon: Organic material! Would that have to do with the BOD?

Mr. Caverly: BOD as organic or BOD in solids; also you have a residual.

Mr. Deacon: Can the residual—the BOD—be neutralized by chlorine?

Mr. Caverly: Chlorine will help to oxidize some of that organic material. Chlorine is not normally used for that purpose; it is used to disinfect the effluent—that is bacterial disinfection of the effluent. But you do get this added benefit of slight reduction of the BOD because chlorine is an oxidizing agent and so it will oxidize some of this organic material.

Mr. Deacon: What are the other materials and the other substances that are harmful in that effluent?

Mr. Caverly: These are the main parameters—BOD, solids and bacterial counts.

Mr. Deacon: The bacteria you can remove by the chlorination. That is something you can do right there. But what about the other things that are harmful?

Mr. Caverly: Well of course there are other things that are dissolved which you cannot remove, such as chlorides, and a few things like that. Nutrients, of course, are something now that we are looking at, and we have had to go into nutrient removal adding a coagulant to pull down the phosphates and nitrates.

Mr. Deacon: Are the phosphates and the nitrates the most worrisome contents?

Mr. Caverly: Phosphates are the most worrisome. One of our early research projects proved that.

Mr. Deacon: What about the nitrates? Are they dangerous?

Mr. Caverly: Well they are a nutrient, but they do not seem to trigger the growth of algae as much as the phosphates.

Mr. Deacon: In connection with that, have you any spray irrigation projects for, say, the chlorinated effluent, which therefore would not have a bacteria problem?

Mr. Caverly: We are using more and more spray irrigation, especially when we get up in the head waters of our rivers and there is no other place to put this, and there is not the land available.

Mr. Deacon: Where have you such projects?

Mr. Caverly: Mr. Barr says the closest one that we have to the Metro area is that Imperial Oil centre on Highway 400, about 10 miles up the 400.

Mr. Deacon: I see. So that is just a little plant for the service centre?

Mr. Caverly: Right!

Mr. Deacon: What about any of the actual sewage plants, municipal plants? Are there any of them?

Mr. Caverly: You mean a spraying irrigation plant of significant size?

Mr. Deacon: Yes. For example, I am thinking about the problems that you now have with the west Don plant, where they have been applying for the last several years to get an extension but the problem is the ability of the receiving stream to accept more effluent. Has there been any thought to putting in an irrigation project to take effluent from that plant?

Mr. Caverly: Well, I do not—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: This was considered by the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, because it is within its watershed. It was felt that because of the location of this, a reservoir or a dam of some kind would not be acceptable to assist, in particular, the Vaughan plant.

Mr. Deacon: I am talking about an irrigation project from which the effluent would be piped directly for irrigation purposes in that area, so that it would not go into the receiving stream. I am thinking about an irrigation system that was perhaps perforated plastic pipe which could operate a good part of the year as it does in some parts of Michigan where they are operating underground plastic-pipe irrigation almost all year round.

Has any thought been given to undertaking an experimental project in an area such as the west Don plant where the treated effluent, perhaps with chlorine addition to be sure there is no bacteria danger, could be put into holding ponds, if necessary, for use

by the golf courses? I think we have some 90 golf courses in the Toronto area, many of which are up in that area. Those waters could be used instead of drawing from the water table?

Mr. Caverly: We have not looked at it from exactly that point of view; that is an interesting observation, using it for golf courses.

We have found in the literature, especially material coming out of Pennsylvania state, that they were getting some good results from spray irrigation in wood lots and we have now a project in our research division of looking at that very point. The committee was up at the lab a couple of weeks ago. They saw the aluminum piping they are going to use for this particular research project on the test floor.

Mr. Deacon: As a sample situation, the Markham plant now has been held up and the development in that area has been held up until another study has been done by the York regional body, I believe, to check on potential problems. If, for example, a pipeline were constructed from the Markham plant to any one of about six or seven golf courses in that area—all of which, including the one located near me, have underground watering systems—it would be a system whereby for very little money the effluent could be taken out of the creek.

At least an experimental project could be carried out for very little money to see just what the results would be. The commission knows these golf courses now draw very heavily on the ground water supplies. They cause serious problems to farmers and others who are depending upon those ground water supplies for their water sources, and the water they are drawing out of the ground does not have oxygen in it, does not have the nutrients in it, that are so valuable for growth. The experience in those areas that I have visited has been very successful in our type of soil.

Where we have a fairly good water table, where we have good clay, loam, where we have lots of grass and crops which are not used for human consumption and there is not the feeling on the part of the public that there is a danger to human health, I would feel the commission should undertake an experimental project in these areas to see what would happen. I do not think many thousands of dollars would be required. It would perhaps be possible to work out agreements with these golf courses which would

save them money as well. I would appreciate your comments.

Mr. Caverly: I was wondering from your standpoint whether there has been any psychological reaction. What do you think the reaction would be from the golfers to walking around in effluent as it is being sprayed on the course?

Mr. Deacon: I think that is a straight matter of whether the thing is publicized as water that is potable water or not. Actually water that would be put through any chlorine treatment would not have any bacteria, there would not be any real harm to health.

Mr. Martel: Carried!

Mr. Deacon: Why am I hearing "carried" from the member from Sudbury?

Mr. Martel: I have seven pool tickets left and I have to get rid of them tonight.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am just wondering—

Mr. Deacon: I have a real problem with a lack of serviced land in our area that I am very anxious to see solved and I would like to see you doing some really important experimental work in this regard. I think we can only do this by on-site experiments.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I am just wondering, Mr. Chairman, if with this type of irrigation or use of effluent for golf courses, which the hon. member mentioned, there would still be the buildup and the flow of effluent on a 12-month basis. I am just wondering what he would do with the buildup.

Mr. Deacon: This is where your pipe system works a little better than the sprayer system. It would only reduce the amount of holding pond you would have to provide for, but there certainly would be a need for substantial holding ponds in any large plant. The Muskegon-Michigan plant has two 850-acre storage lagoons for an estimated population of about 200,000 people, plus substantial production of waste by industry, including a pulp mill. So they have rather large demands on this system and they have not provided for anything but surface spraying; they have not provided for underground distribution of the effluent because of the nature of the soil. Do we have any hydrologists on our staff?

Mr. Caverly: Several.

Mr. Deacon: And they are working on these. Have they been doing anything major?

Mr. Caverly: They are in another division but their expertise is available to our research division.

Mr. Deacon: Are we contemplating any commercial size, or more than an experimental-model size development in this?

Mr. Caverly: What you have raised here is very interesting. I am quite interested in this because this is a concept that had not occurred to me. There may be some fish hooks in it, I do not know. The experimental work we were doing on wood lots is full scale—this is not pilot plant. We are hopeful that we are going to come up with some design parameters which will allow this method to be used. You cannot sterilize all the land near headwaters in this province, so we are going to have to develop some expertise whereby we can allow treatment of waste in those areas and still protect these receiving streams.

The one we are looking at, of course, is to completely keep it out of there by some means; this is what we are looking for.

Mr. Deacon: It is really interesting to think that we pay money to fertilize our lands with nitrates and phosphates and then we are hesitating to put it in the streams because of the damage it does to our lakes and our rivers. This would seem to be an area where a substantial effort should be made.

The next think I wanted to find out is what—

Mr. Lawlor: Pardon me, where is the experiment working now?

Mr. Caverly: Have we picked a spot?

Mr. F. A. Voegelé (Ontario Water Resources Commission): Shelburne.

Mr. Deacon: I understand there is a town called Hillsburgh up in that area in which the vice-chairman of the commission would like to see an experimental irrigation project started. He said they were short of serviced lots in Hillsburgh. I think that is one area where you would have strong support for an experimental system.

I am interested in what progress has been made in the development, in co-operation with private industry or whatever, in sewage systems for cottages, other than the traditional

septic tank system which has caused so much trouble wherever people try to make them work.

Mr. Caverly: The Ontario Research Foundation and the National Research Council both have looked into some sort of biological treatment on an individual house basis. I think they have developed models that can turn out a satisfactory effluent. I know they were working on them for the far north where you have permafrost and things like that. The problem, of course, is in servicing these things and seeing that the householder maintains proper operation of the plant.

I remember a few years ago meeting with some people from Cleveland who were promoting this type of unit on a subdivision basis—if you put in say 100 houses. The point they could not satisfy us on at that time was that they could set up a service organization—something similar to what you have with the oil burner industry—so that we could be assured of no undue breakdowns.

But there is a little difference here, because as soon as an oil burner quits and your house is getting cold, you are going to get hold of the service man pretty quickly and the same with a water supply. Sewage is different, human nature being what it is. This is the problem. If you can lick the servicing problem, then I think there is a lot of merit in this.

Mr. Deacon: Maybe if we can have some sort of device that when the plant is not working right the aroma goes directly into the house; that would stop that.

Mr. Caverly: You have got to have some way to make that householder have that thing repaired.

Mr. Deacon: Has there been very much money spent by the commission in research work on this type of thing? What sort of an allocation have you had toward the development of individual sewage operations?

Mr. Caverly: We have not gone into this to any extent at all. We have concentrated more on refined processes at the municipal level and on treatment works for boats.

Mr. Deacon: In view of the tremendous increase in the use of cottages and the cottage population, particularly in the rocky sections of our province where it is very difficult to install adequate sewage with traditional septic tank systems, would this

not be an important area for research to be carried out?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes; as the hon. member knows my understanding is there is a certain amount of research going on with the environmental engineering branch in The Department of Health, which at the present time has the control and inspection of septic systems under its jurisdiction. There has been quite a bit of private research in treatment equipment. The flush-o-matic, for example, is the type of equipment that is mainly for cottage country. But the problem has been, as far as we know, that there is not any system that avoids the septic system at some stage. In other words you have got to have either some sort of a holding tank or a settling basin—a septic system of some kind.

All the treatment in the world, chemical or otherwise, in your private systems still needs that ultimate, rather primitive treatment by way of a septic system.

Mr. Deacon: I understand there are at least two other developments under way. But I wondered whether the commission itself was encouraging or funding any programme to develop other than the traditional septic system?

Mr. Caverly: Not with us. Now The Department of Health has been doing some research on septic tank systems. One of the things in these models I talked about a little while ago that has not been taken into account, is nutrient removal, of course, which is a big factor in resort lakes. Unless you can incorporate that into your process, I do not know how successful it would be.

Mr. Deacon: A couple of people have some perhaps far-out ideas, but they might just work. I think that a lot of these chaps that do have ideas would appreciate having some participation even under government control in the development of them. I did not know whether the commission, in view of the importance of this matter in the cottage country we have, could spend some money on this type of project and if it could have some control over the thing.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Any project that looks promising, that looks as if it will improve an existing situation, particularly where you have so much trouble putting septic systems in rock terrain, like the Kawarthas, we are looking at. We will even fund a certain amount of research if we feel there is something there,

it is the type of system that can be utilized by cottagers and the price is not prohibitive—in other words, if it is a thing that is usable.

Mr. Deacon: That is fine. That is what I am really interested in knowing, if the commission would consider assisting in the funding of such project if it got its fair share of whatever came out of it.

The last area that I want to talk about is a traditional one that I am concerned about, and that is the whole approach of the commission to the funding of these municipal systems—the problem, for example, that the member for Waterloo North (Mr. Good) raised in a recent discussion in the House of the present system of making each project self-financing or self-liquidating. The result is that Baden, Ontario, has an extraordinarily high water cost in proportion to nearby Waterloo and there is the distortion that such differences in water costs have on development programmes.

Has the minister any plans to change this programme, because of the fact that the province does not benefit at all from these agreements that make them self-liquidating?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: As the hon. member knows, Mr. Chairman, we have two systems, two approaches now.

There are municipal projects which are financed by the municipality, usually with help from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, or without help depending on the municipality, its assets, its wealth and its ability to finance a sewage treatment project.

We also have now the provincial projects. We used to have municipal-provincial projects, which we do not have any more. We now have the provincial projects where the province will go in and build the plant and operate the plant and charge on a user basis. Whatever the cost of that plant is and its amortization over a certain period of time, this is reflected in the rate to that municipality.

As the hon. member knows, there were many municipalities, particularly the small ones, which just could not afford that because the number of people who were using it was not enough to bring the rate down to a reasonable amount. We brought in our new policy whereby there is a maximum of \$120 per householder for sewage and \$100 for water or up to 50 per cent of the cost, whichever is of the greatest benefit to the user.

There are one or two small municipalities,

such as Baden, where even with this policy the cost is quite high.

I do not know really—this means new policy. This means some other form of financing so that even in this case the cost can be lowered to the homeowner. As the hon. member I am sure is going to say, if you have \$120 plus \$100 that is \$220, and then you have other services that the homeowner may be paying for. This makes your annual expenditure to the municipality almost prohibitive. So we are going to have to review this, because of incidents such as the hon. member for Waterloo North has related, and decide whether there would be an initial grant or a grant right from the start, maybe with some forgivable feature. In view of the fact they were not getting enough money from CMHC, some forgivable feature would again assist in lowering the rate. This is something we are going to have to look at.

Mr. Deacon: As the minister no doubt contended, the local autonomy is concerned about local distribution systems. They are not concerned about the supply or the treatment as long as supply and treatment are provided them on a wholesale basis at a cost reasonably competitive with rates to other municipalities they are being judged with by people who are going to move in or an industry which is going to move in.

For that reason, I have felt very strongly that the water resources commission, now that it is in the business of building these plants, and since its money is being raised by the province on the basis of the provincial credit, not on the basis of these contracts—there should be no further requirement for contracts—the water resources commission should proceed with the construction of the plants without entering into agreements that have to have the approval of the Ontario Municipal Board.

Since the province would not endanger its own ability to raise money, since it would enable these municipalities to agree to plants without any fights as we now have in the litigation and long protracted negotiations that have been characteristic of them in the past, we could get on with the job.

One of the great disappointments to me about this budget is how small it is. We are now, as a province, guaranteeing several hundred million dollars of Hydro bonds a year, for a corporation which is really self-sufficient and could borrow on its own base and does not need our guarantee. But if the commission were allowed to go ahead on its

own, borrow its own funds and go ahead on programmes of \$150 million to \$200 million a year, we could really get on with the job here. We would not need to worry about these agreements and we could introduce area rates that would be acceptable and not be fought up and down the line as Baden is having to do now for its own people.

I would hope the minister would push toward this action because the commission is not building up any sense of confidence and goodwill on the part of municipalities under the present programme. Every municipality is very concerned about the situation it faces with the OWRC on one hand telling it it cannot have any development, and on the other hand saying you are going to have to pay so many hundred dollars, that in many cases the municipalities feel they cannot afford.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Mr. Chairman, I am just wondering if we did use the approach as suggested by the hon. member whether or not in the end result the rates would be any more advantageous to the homeowners, because at the present time we are paying a substantial subsidy. The rates are based strictly on the amount that has to be paid locally. If we go in on a strictly user basis, such as Hydro does, there is not that subsidy. There is not that grant except just a rural grant that amounts to very little in the overall picture. I question whether or not this would be any more advantageous to the individual homeowner.

I agree there are a number of complaints from municipalities about the signing of these agreements. They are long, lengthy, complicated agreements and the municipalities complain that everything is weighted in favour of the commission. But at the present time the OMB still considers a project such as this based on the amount the municipality has to pay or its obligation as a debt on that municipality, regardless of whether it is paid over a period of time—

Mr. Deacon: The initial agreement—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes, it is considered an encumbrance on that municipality and the board has to look at that municipality and its ability to take on this additional liability.

It is just not as simple as saying the commission should go in and build these plants, operate them and charge on a user basis. Because if it was done strictly the rate would be substantially higher, unless we still included some sort of a subsidy programme and

a grant programme that would bring the rate down to an acceptable level.

Mr. Deacon: Might I point out to the minister that right now the major centres are able to finance most of their extensions because they have the high density and very low unit per capita cost, because of the high density of population and their location. Those same municipalities—if they had the commission putting in the additions and taking over the responsibility for the future expansion requirements, and there were no agreements entailed—would be very pleased to have the responsibility now placed upon them removed from them. It would enable them to do other projects which every municipality has that they could consider to be of greater priority.

The difference now is that when there is a major commitment forced upon them it has to be approved by the OMB; they really battle over every penny.

For example, take the London-Huron pipeline, the St. Thomas pipeline, and the discrepancy between the rates in those situations. If London had not had to enter into an agreement and the water resources commission had built that pipeline and had a connection through St. Thomas and Lake Erie as part of a grid, it could perhaps have charged 21 cents instead of 16 or 17 cents to London and just said: "Extra water is there. You cannot deplete your water supply or your water table further there, we are providing this additional supply at no encumbrance to you."

At the same time that extra two cents or three cents or four cents a thousand gallons collected in the high density area would cover major amounts of the subsidy in other areas. Even if we did require a subsidy in the earlier years, as we built up our sources of revenue, wholesale revenue, we could soon move those up slightly to make it possible to subsidize the rural areas.

Which is what we have been doing in Hydro over the years and gradually moved Hydro up onto a very fine business. Initially, Ontario Water Resources could not be profitable because we have not done it soon enough.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: But then you would probably run into some sort of a criteria that Hydro has about extending its lines to areas that are small or where the community is sparsely populated; where you have to run long transmission lines, or have enough people in all—

Mr. Deacon: You have opportunity for self-sufficient plants. You have ground water supplies. You have package plants that you can put in that would not require these interconnections. Particularly if we modernize some of our treatment practices so that we do not have to have these huge collector systems, we can use package plants. I suggest that there is a tremendous opportunity and a great need for us to adopt this approach. The present approach is so restricting to development in towns that we are having a distortion in land prices and we are certainly aggravating the problem of the people trying to find low-cost housing.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think another problem is that in spite of the fact that you say there is a certain amount of antagonism between the commission and the local municipality—

Mr. Deacon: That is putting it very mildly.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right! But if the agreement is the problem, if the requirements—I have heard the comment, for example, that some of OWRC's design is too cumbersome, it is unnecessarily costly, it takes too long to build these plants.

Mr. Deacon: They have to see that the rate itself has to be based on the liquidation of the project.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I think this is all a matter of bringing up to date all phases of our design and engineering. With modern uses today everything is smaller, less complicated, and just as efficient, or more efficient. I am hoping, of course, that the commission moves in this way as well. But it is a matter of priorities again, it is a matter for the municipality. I know there are no votes in sewers, or sewage-treatment plants. I know it is nicer to have a new arena, or better roads, or other things—schools, libraries. But unfortunately it is only recently that municipalities have—

Mr. Deacon: —planned their local distribution systems!

Hon. Mr. Kerr: So this is what we are looking at. I still do not agree there should not be some local input into these systems. I do not think that it strictly should be the province going into these smaller communities and building the plants and operating the plants and charging a rate, because you are still going to have to have those hearings, you are going to get local complaints about the amount of the rates, the same as you had

with Hydro. And I might just end off by saying, as the hon. member knows, part of our policy in regional government is to give this whole responsibility over to the region.

Mr. Deacon: This I disagree with very violently. The regions do not have the financial base to do it.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Well, they are supposed to have.

Mr. Deacon: And if the province were to set up area rates, put in wholesale facilities, it would still be up to the municipalities to finance the local distribution systems and collector systems locally.

But if there were area rates there would not be that problem. It would not be a direct burden upon the municipality. It would be the responsibility of the commission to pay for that and to get it as low as possible in order to come as close as possible to meeting the cost of the project at the area rate that is agreed to. And by an area rate I mean one that does not vary up and down, to any degree, from one part of the province to the other. I mean just the same as it is in Hydro.

It means that we would be subsidizing low density areas in order to allow and encourage development to occur in those areas, something that all of us agree is important.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, there are very few topics I wanted to ask the minister. The use of salt for snow removal does not decrease at all as the years go by. Is there some deleterious effect as a result of the over-use of salt?

Mr. Caverly: Well, it increases the chlorides, and there is a limit of chloride content for acceptable water quality. It is still in hand as far as the province is concerned.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Any salt, of course, when there is any substantial run-off as a result of the use of salt on our highways, increases the chloride content of the receiving water. But my information is that this still is within limits, that in spite of some complaint in certain areas about shall we say salt pollution, all complaints, or all allegations, have always been investigated and we found, as I say, that there is not any great cause for alarm. The receiving water, whatever amount it does get, or has been getting, is quite able to absorb it. The beautiful part about all

this is that the salt is put on in the winter time and we have the advantage of a spring freshet to those streams, so a great deal of it is carried away and substantially diluted.

Mr. B. Newman: It is no problem in our treatment plants at all?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: No, none whatsoever.

Mr. B. Newman: Another problem I wanted to ask about: are swimming pools any problem to the commission? Especially when the swimming pools all of a sudden are emptied of the vast amounts of chemicals that may be used in swimming pools and outdoor pools?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: They all have filtration plants.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister if the salt wells, the brine wells that are situated on the west side of the city of Windsor, are causing any type of a problem?

Mr. Caverly: No.

Mr. B. Newman: No problem at all. So as far as salt is concerned it is not a problem at all?

Mr. Caverly: We have had the odd private well along a highway or a street contaminated, and we have looked into this with our ground-water branch and rectified the situation. But it is minor; it is not what you might call a major source of pollution.

Mr. B. Newman: So it is nothing that we would have to worry about in the foreseeable future as long as we continue operating with the salt as it is?

Mr. Caverly: In the wintertime and through the spring we are continually monitoring what we might call critical areas where salt might become a problem some day, like in large urban areas. For instance, we monitor the Metropolitan Toronto area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I might add, Mr. Chairman, that one of the advantages, of course, of any such runoff is it makes these Newfoundlanders feel at home.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister what provisions are being undertaken today to take care of the greater popularity of boating? The regulations require a holding tank. Are you making arrangements for more pump-out stations so that there would be no problem at all this year on the Great Lakes?

The State of Michigan, apparently, is insisting on holding tanks, effective this year, and they foresee that they are going to have their problem licked. I noticed the list of state pump-out stations there, and it was extremely numerous compared to those that Ontario seemed to have listed in the Windsor-Detroit area.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: All I know is that we expect to have a minimum of 220 pump-out stations located strategically around the province. As the hon. member may know, we amended our legislation last fall whereby we can now force marinas to have pump-out stations. At least, where there are two or three or four marinas in one area, we say there has to be at least one in that area.

This, coupled with what Michigan is doing, will assist boaters, for example in your area substantially. Before they were going over there and had to come back; now they can stay over there. There are some facilities.

Mr. B. Newman: There will not be the problem of trying to stop a Michigander with a boat from coming into Ontario.

Could I ask of the minister what has been the conclusion as a result of the Allied Chemical suit that was being instituted by a University of Windsor student by the name of John Gunning?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: I believe that is just going to court now, is it not? It is just in the process of—I believe it was set down for this month.

Mr. B. Newman: Is the minister's department providing any evidence and financial assistance in this regard?

Mr. Caplice: We have provided the technical evidence that Mr. Gunning has used to date, and I believe the Crown attorney for Windsor was in touch with our office this week, requesting some of our people to appear as expert witnesses. We have provided no financial assistance.

Mr. B. Newman: Was the suit started as a result of Mr. Gunning's request or was it started as a result of some instigation on the part of the department?

Mr. Caplice: This was purely a suit that was started by Mr. Gunning, based on his own observations as a private citizen living in the Windsor area.

Mr. B. Newman: All right! Would any other private citizen have the same type of

assistance from the department as was given in this case?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes. There is no reason, if somebody lays a charge, under say, section 27 of The Ontario Water Resources Commission Act—assuming that it is a legitimate complaint and not a facetious charge—

Mr. Caverly:—and our laboratory having the capacity.

Hon. Mr. Kerr:—the commission will assist in the prosecution—

Mr. B. Newman: The commission would step in and see that the necessary technical evidence is provided for them?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Right!

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister if he is satisfied now that the various industries in the Windsor and Essex county area are treating their effluent and are not dumping liquid wastes into our water courses or into our treatment plants?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If you can give me some particular industries, I can give you some information on them.

Mr. B. Newman: I beg your pardon?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: If you can give me some particular industries—

Mr. B. Newman: No, I am asking if you have any that you are not satisfied with, or are you satisfied that all plants in the city of Windsor are not contravening The Ontario Water Resources Act by dumping their untreated effluent into the sewer system or directly into the Detroit River?

Mr. Caplice: Most large industries in the Windsor area have completed their programmes insofar as water pollution control is concerned. That includes Chrysler and the Ford company's engine plant—

Mr. B. Newman: The Ford company has complied? Are you sure?

Mr. Caplice: The engine plant waste treatment facility became operational about two or three months ago and we have had good reports on it, both from staff inspections and also some of their information. The Ford foundry waste treatment plant is still under construction, I believe.

Mr. B. Newman: The foundry and the engine plant are essentially the same complex.

Mr. Caplice: Right, but we have considered them to be separate waste treatment problems because of the nature of the problem.

Mr. B. Newman: Is the Ford Motor Company under any type of ministerial order to complete that type of treatment within a given period of time?

Mr. Caplice: No, they are not under any order under our Act on water pollution. I am not sure whether the air management branch has got them under—

Hon. Mr. Kerr: You are satisfied with the effluent then, if they are not under order.

Mr. Caplice: They are completing the programme as it was outlined to us.

Mr. B. Newman: Have you set a date by which they must complete their programme?

Mr. Caplice: Yes, it is this year.

Mr. B. Newman: It is this year?

Mr. Caplice: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Could you tell us the date?

Mr. Caplice: I can provide you with the date later.

Mr. B. Newman: Could you tell me now so I would know? Is it the end of the year? Is it within a month or two?

Mr. Caplice: It is at the end of the summer period, I believe or early in the fall.

Mr. B. Newman: So by September 21, they should have their—

Mr. Caplice: I would prefer to check it and let you know.

Mr. B. Newman: Are there any other industries in the community that are being required to provide similar types of facilities? Is Hiram Walker?

Mr. Caplice: Hiram Walker have now completed their waste treatment programme and they are utilizing the municipal sewage treatment plant of Windsor for handling a large portion of their waste.

Mr. B. Newman: The Chrysler plant likewise?

Mr. Caplice: The Chrysler plant has completed its programme on water pollution.

Mr. Chairman: A final question?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: No, those are all the questions. Thank you, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Are votes 505, 506 and 507 of the Ontario Water Resources Commission carried?

Votes 505, 506 and 507, Inclusive, agreed to.

Mr. Martel: Can I ask one question?

Some hon. members: No! We have had enough of those questions.

An hon. member: It is adjourned!

Mr. Martel: I wanted to ask the minister some questions we raised in other sections of the estimates. Will we be getting answers by mail?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: What a question. Every question was answered!

Mr. Martel: No. There were some that were left, for example, the revocation of that Damage By Fumes Arbitration Act; would you have that investigated?

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes; you have got all that, have you?

Mr. Martel: Will we get answers in the mail? That is all I want to know.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Were you saying "yes" to him?

An hon. member: No, I was talking to Henry Landis.

Mr. Martel: I just wondered if we would get these answers to the various questions we raised by correspondence.

Hon. Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: This concludes the estimates of The Department of Energy and Resources Management.

The committee adjourned at 10.05 o'clock, p.m.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Public Works

Chairman: Mr. W. Hodgson

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, May 13, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1971

The committee met at 3.15 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): We have a quorum.

Clerk of Committee: I think perhaps, gentlemen, we can go ahead and organize the committee, if nothing else. There seems to be an entire lack of opposition members.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): I move that the member for York North (Mr. W. Hodgson) be Chairman.

Clerk of Committee: Perhaps we should wait until one member of the Opposition—

Mr. W. Newman: The meeting was called for 3 o'clock.

Clerk of Committee: Our first duty is to elect a Chairman. May I have nominations for Chairman?

Mr. Henderson: I move that the member for York North shall be Chairman of this committee.

Clerk of Committee: Any other nominations? Nominations for Vice-Chairman?

Mr. W. Newman: I move the member for Simcoe East (Mr. G. E. Smith) be Vice-Chairman.

Clerk of Committee: Any other nominations? I declare the nominations closed.

All those in favour of the motion before us?

Those against?

Mr. Hodgson, please take the chair.

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): Thank you very much, gentlemen, for appointing me to this very important job as Chairman of the estimates committee.

You are all familiar with the rules and regulations, I hope. You have all served on committees before. We will proceed with the estimates.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Chairman, I have no speech or opening statement. I am prepared to proceed.

Mr. Chairman: Does anyone from Her Majesty's loyal opposition have anything to say? The minister has forgone his opening speech. We are anxious to get along.

Mr. M. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): I would like to say a few words, Mr. Chairman. Is there any time limit?

Mr. Chairman: Use your own judgement.

Mr. MacKenzie: First I would like to welcome the new minister. All the reports are that he did a marvellous job in his former department of Tourism and we hope for some pretty substantial work in this department. We know he has a good deputy with him. The staff have proved their worth through the years and I think if we get a minister who will look ahead a bit with the department behind him, it should be able to go quite a bit further than it has in past years.

Next I would like to say that we welcome the estimates being discussed in committee. Maybe we will get a chance to explore some of those avenues which we have not been able to explore too well in years gone past because of running out of time and because of answers which did not seem to lead any place.

It gives us a real informal opportunity to investigate such things as the bankruptcy of the contractor on Ontario Place and the way in which the department dealt with this, and to perhaps get the point across that contractors should be bonded on both large and small jobs. Also some opportunity, I would hope, of getting some more details on the management contract which the department has been using.

The offices for the members of the Legislature, which the department is now providing, I must say are a very big improvement over what we have had in the past. I for one would like to compliment the department on moving so far. I realize that for years the Opposition cried about their lack of facilities and now I hear nothing but compliments for the department on what it has done. Everyone seems to be quite happy, and I suppose will be for a few years to come. Hopefully, the air conditioning and heating will keep working satisfactorily.

There are things we can talk about and probably will talk about during these estimates. In Ottawa, where I come from, we had a hue and cry for many years before we were able to get the cars moved away from the front of the House of Commons and thereby improve the appearance of the building and really show it off. I think everybody appreciates the improved appearance of the House of Commons without the cars parked in front to distract from the building.

Mr. M. Makarchuk (Brantford): All we need is a new garage.

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes. I would hope that some day in the not too distant future some thought can be given to removing the car parking from in front of this building and adding to its beauty. If more car parking is needed, maybe we can find a way of providing underground parking at the back of the building, and hopefully more flowers in the front, more beauty, and above all things, a few good photographs of the building that members like myself can use on Christmas cards.

The blue book which was put forward again this year is a very good report on what is happening in the department. My criticisms of the blue book are the same this year as they have been in the past years to some extent—although I have not studied it to the same degree—namely, that here is some difficulty in getting from one year to another. There is difficulty in carrying forward the continuity of the work programme from one year to another.

I for one would be happy to see the department devise the reports on its programme in such a way that you can follow it in continuity from one year to another, so there is no doubt in your mind of what is happening. I appreciate this is perhaps difficult for the department in some ways. I appreciate that maybe there are some things they do not want talked about too

much, but I am also of the belief that a clean breast of everything helps keep the department on the road.

Our discussions and proddings in our party for the past three years have dealt a lot with several items, of which one has been planning and programming the work to help influence the economy. If the delays in sketch plans which I find when comparing the blue book of this year with the blue book of last year, are indicative of the department's attitude, then there is little doubt they are not trying to have any impact on the economy now as they have not had in the past.

The reports of the previous ministers always were that the department has no control over the programming of any of these buildings because they are basically buildings for other departments.

This may be the case. The most I can say is that I think it is time that the ministry got its head together and phased the buildings and the programmes to have as much influence as possible on the economy of the province, particularly at this time when you see such high unemployment. Why can we not move ahead and get some of these programmes moving in a hurry?

We have also talked in this party about the ministers—not this minister we have with us this year—said that I was looking for pie in the sky, such a position was not right and not proper, it was unrealistic. I find on investigation that the federal government has been working at it for two or three years to try to bring together such an information centre on building construction.

I find that England and Holland and two or three other European countries already have building information centres relating to construction of buildings. I would hope that the provincial government will eventually see fit to get into this to some extent, and at least provide construction information for contractors in the Province of Ontario. Maybe we can get into this a little further when we get into the details.

Central purchasing has been talked about a lot. I get the impression that central purchasing has fallen by the way; for some reason or other the department or the ministry cannot control the government sufficiently to bring about worthwhile effort in central purchasing. I may be wrong in this and if I am I hope the minister will clarify it.

Uniform building standards: I mentioned I think it was two or three years ago, maybe

it was two years, that it was my belief that The Department of Public Works, with all its expertise, a department that embodies some of the best architects and engineers in the province, is a department that should be handling the matter of uniform building standards. Unfortunately it went to The Department of Municipal Affairs, and on January 9, 1970, the minister brought in the report from that committee and his own statement on it. Some of the things in his statement are very interesting indeed.

He talks about "order and flexibility where confusion and rigidity now exists." I think I will go into this more when we get into the details of the estimates. But even the committee itself says that that National Building Code should be adopted not later than January, 1971, a starter to get it under way. To my knowledge nothing has yet happened in this direction; the months and years seem to roll by and we know these things should be done and they are not getting done.

An additional area that the government should be moving in, I think, is that some time or another in the Province of Ontario we are clearly going to have to get into some building research. That is, to devise ways of improving building construction and finding ways of getting our buildings up more cheaply than we have in the past.

I have an article on that, a news item about a donation of \$50,000 that was made recently to a research group in order to get such a programme underway in Canada. Surely this government will see fit to move in this direction as the days go by.

The other area I like to think the department will give some leadership in is the changeover to the metric system, which is surely going to come about. I know this may shock some, but it is going to come and the time may be here now when the department should give some thought to preparing its plans in both the English and the metric systems.

Additionally, some thought may be given and some future planning toward regulations and legislation regarding proper construction. I refer more to the appearance and the durability of construction and not necessarily to safety, fire and health, which we presently have pretty good regulations on and will have complete regulations when we get our uniform building standards underway.

I do not have anything more in detail at this time, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Hamilton Centre.

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton Centre): Mr. Chairman, I would first like to congratulate the new minister. I hope that with him in the chair we will maybe get a little more action than we have had in the past out of the Ministers of Public Works. I had the privilege over the years of being the critic when he was Minister of Tourism and Information and I always found him very good to work with; so I hope we will have the same thing in this.

Mr. Chairman, I turned to the estimates of The Department of Public Works with the hope that at last this government would show some concern for the unemployed of Ontario by granting the hon. minister a substantial increase in his budget under the provision-of-accommodation programme, particularly in the section providing for design and construction. This kind of expenditure assists not only the construction trades but it provides a general feedback into the many supply industries. It provides many and varied job opportunities. However, far from increasing its efforts, the department seems actually to be slipping backwards.

In the 1969-1970 period, \$37.6 million was actually spent. The estimates for the period 1970-1971 were \$45.6 million. This would seem to indicate increased activity to the extent of \$8 million or a hike of 21.3 per cent. But I would direct the hon. members' attention to Hansard of May 5, 1970, and in particular to page 2372, when the Minister of Public Works at that time (Mr. Simonett) admitted that, when increased prices were considered, his department would only be able to build about the same amount in buildings as during the previous year.

Now, let us turn to the 1971-1972 estimates, and we observe a proposed expenditure of \$54.4 million—a dollar increase of approximately \$8 million, the same as in the previous year, but a percentage increase of only 19.3 per cent. Actually it is a decrease of two per cent. If we accept the former minister's statement of the previous year—and I would see no reason to doubt it—we must now assume, since prices have all increased again, that even fewer buildings will be built this year than in each of the previous two years.

What can this government be thinking of—cutting back in buildings while unemployment mounts steadily? Surely this is the time to get into an extensive programme of public buildings across the whole province. How

can you sit there so smugly arrogant and do nothing, while people in the Province of Ontario cannot obtain employment? Our welfare rolls increase daily; we are spending the money anyway and yet you do nothing of any real importance to supply jobs.

You make a big thing of cutting down elm trees and saying it provides temporary work for 140 people while another department lends money to a company so it can close down one plant and throw that many employees out of work in one community and open up another plant and hire fewer people in another community. It just does not make sense and it boggles the imagination how you arrive at these decisions. I know that decision did not come from this department, but all cabinet ministers must share the blame for their government's failure to meet the needs of the people of Ontario. Obviously none of you know what it means to be unemployed or you would all be as angry as I am.

We have heard in previous years that the minister of this department originally budgeted larger sums but they were cut back. I want to know if the ministers ever fight to increase their budgets in order to reduce unemployment?

I noticed in the public accounts book for 1969-1970, under provisions of accommodation, several items for The Department of Correctional Services, but with only three or four exceptions these deal with providing repairs or installing ventilation systems—things along this line.

Mr. Chairman, through you to the new minister, may I ask if Hamilton can expect to have a new jail built? I cannot remember a time when the grand jury has failed to make this recommendation. We have waited for some 20 to 30 years with patience that defies description to get rid of a building that is hopelessly outdated, that provides old-fashioned chamber pots which the inmates must use from the time they are confined to their cells in the early evening until morning when they are released. It must be like sleeping in an outhouse. The employees from the governor down must cope with all its inequities. I understand they do a good job, but it is an uphill battle all the way.

This would be one way to relieve some of Hamilton's unemployed. I know you are going to tell me to take it up with the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Apps), and I will do that, but I would like to know how many times, and over how many years, it has

been cut out of that department's budget because the budget of The Department of Public Works would not allow sufficient funds to build this. I am pressing this, Mr. Chairman, because I have noticed several announcements recently of new facilities of this kind in other areas and I am wondering why this very long-overdue need in Hamilton has not been satisfied.

I would like to know how many buildings the province owns in Hamilton, how many are rented and how many are owned but not used for the purpose of providing accommodation for provincial services. I am concerned about the department's growing trend of renting accommodation, because after 15 or 20 years of renting at the rates I heard mentioned last year, the accommodation could have been built—and if it were built using the modular system of construction, I have no doubt they could have added space, if the larger quarters were needed, far more economically than by those long-term leases.

When they were no longer useful we would still own the land for use in rebuilding. When we have rented for a long period, no doubt we have spent an amount equal to building costs and we own nothing—no land, no buildings, that might be sold or rented to others.

Much has been said about the value of introducing a building standards code, but it has been tossed from one department to another for so long. Does the hon. minister intend to introduce such a code, or is he, too, going to pass it on to The Department of Municipal Affairs, where it seems to die an unsung death?

How are we coming along with our centralized purchasing? Are we at last buying for other departments' needs? This has been going on since the Treasurer announced this new purchasing plan in 1967 and so far it does not seem to be an overwhelming success. I agree it is a good sensible idea, but have you been able to persuade the other departments of its value? The Financial Post on February 27, 1971, declared it asked one deputy minister why such chaotic purchasing could be tolerated in Ontario, and it was told poor provinces such as Saskatchewan need the economies of centralized purchasing but we are a little wealthier in Ontario.

Perhaps there is some kind of a patronage deal going on to account for the strange reluctance of other departments to participate. In any event, I am not sure, Mr. Chairman, how long we will remain wealthy.

Just before I close, Mr. Chairman, how are we doing with the printing business?

Have you had any more success this year in persuading the other departments to give the Queen's Printer their business?

Mr. Chairman: Just before we proceed to vote 1801, maybe the minister has some general comments he would like to make?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, Mr. Chairman, if I could. There are some specific matters there which I think would probably be more effectively dealt with when we get to the vote itself, but there were certain general comments that I might like to comment on in return.

First of all, the question of the programme itself and changes in the blue book from year to year, I think the committee members are aware, are not within the control of this department specifically. The various operating departments decide their own priorities for construction and space rental of what is to be constructed. They have to work these out in concert with all the departments in terms of departmental priorities within departments and then priorities as between departments. When this has been decided The Department of Public Works goes to the sketch plan and then the working drawing and then eventually the construction stages.

There are changes from time to time, as we are all aware, because priorities within departments may change due to any one of a number of factors. A fire, for instance, might change a situation within a department, and there are changes as between overall government priorities. This department works to service the other departments and carry out the work which the other departments wish. Where there have been changes I am sure you are aware that the chap who might give you the answer is the minister of the operating department rather than the Minister of Public Works.

As far as construction and its influence on the economy is concerned. Of course, the province's construction programme is a very small part of the total building programme within the province. I would, though, point out to the committee that because of the employment situation this year and last year, Treasury Board gave Public Works authority in January to accelerate a number of projects which were in the completion-of-working-drawing phase; In other words, things that were on the shelf. As a result, from the original budget of \$44 million for construction, the revised budget after Treasury Board

approved in January totalled \$48.3 million, an increase of about \$4.3 million.

You will notice, too, that our construction budget for this year is increased a further \$4 million over the revised figure from last year, so that the government is certainly doing those things within its own priorities in terms of construction to increase—

Mr. Davison: That just includes costs though, does it not? Actually its costs are not much more developed.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not say. What roughly do we figure the cost increase on an average around the province would be over last year?

Mr. D. G. Creba (Operations Division): It is very hard to say.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would vary considerably from place to place. It would be very difficult to give an accurate figure because in Kenora, for instance, it might be the same as last year and in Sudbury it might be up 15 per cent because of the economic conditions in the two areas.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, the minister mentioned the costs in the various municipalities in which he does public works, various types of construction. Then he comes along and says in Kenora it costs—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Could you wait until we get to the vote?

Mr. Chairman: Could you wait for that part until the Minister finishes his comments?

Mr. B. Newman: The only reason I asked this is because the minister makes mention of it right now.

Mr. Chairman: Save it for when we get to the vote.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In connection with uniform building standards, there is a national building code which is not necessarily mandatory in all the provinces and municipalities, but the matter of which department would be involved is working—either provincial legislation, if this was thought desirable, or doing research, or producing provincial building codes—is a matter of government policy.

At the present time the department most intimately involved in that sort of thing is

The Department of Municipal Affairs, because the policy has been for years that municipalities have a great deal of authority in this field because of varying conditions from place to place and so on. I do not think anybody disagrees that it would be most desirable to have adopted throughout the country a uniform building code, but so far this has not been achieved everywhere.

In the question of the metric system—

Mr. MacKenzie: Can I just dwell on this or will we bring it up later, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think if we come to the construction vote—

Mr. MacKenzie: I just want to say that you are off track quite a bit in what you say there, as regards what the other minister said:

Hon. Mr. Auld: I hope then I will have a chance to check with him before we get to that.

On the matter of the metric system, you may be aware, and I am not fully conversant with this—but I do know that the government of Canada has set up a committee and the provincial department which is represented on that committee is The Department of Trade and Development, which, of course, is interested in not only building, but manufacturing and a whole host of things.

And on the question about how many buildings are owned and rented in Hamilton, we will have an answer for you shortly.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that is really about all I wanted to comment on.

Mr. Davison: The other two questions; could you answer them for us?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Which points were those?

Mr. Davison: The one on the book store and—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Can we deal with that when we get to central supply and purchasing?

Mr. Davison: May I ask the Chairman a question? I want to bring up this \$20 million that the government has allotted for buying property. Whereabouts will we bring that up?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You will not find it in this budget.

Mr. Davison: No, I realize that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: So there is no place we can really discuss it here.

Mr. Davison: Well, where can we discuss it? I presume that you just want to do the buying.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do the buying for all departments, but I am afraid I cannot answer why The Department of Lands and Forests decided to buy a certain piece of land for a park. I can tell you how much we paid for it. We do not decide what Lands and Forests' priorities are, or The Department of Health, or—

Mr. Davison: You do not even know what the \$20 million is to be used for?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not specifically as Minister of Public Works.

Mr. B. Newman: The individual departments do their own decision-making and then you do the purchasing for them and the negotiating for them?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Just so we keep the thing in order, when we come to the vote, I would be delighted to give you a short rundown of just how we operate in this field, so it would be clear.

Mr. Chairman: That will come under vote 5.

Mr. Makarchuk: Mr. Chairman, I imagine we will discuss main office and this matter of policy would come under the first; provision of accommodation would come under 2?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, we will proceed with vote 1801 and divide it off into six different parts and we will deal with them one at a time. We will start off with 1.

On vote 1801:

Mr. Makarchuk: This is dealing with the minister's own function in his department and in the Provincial Auditor's committee where the central purchasing was discussed. We were not going to go into the details there, but it seemed to me that what we got from that, or we understood, is the fact that this particular committee does not have any kind of clout in terms of forcing other departments to conform with their desires. In other words to abide possibly by their decisions or their specifications or what they would prefer or where they would want the purchasing to be done. As a matter of policy,

Mr. Chairman, have discussions been held with other ministers to assure that they do have some kind of power or some method of enforcing some kind of standard procedures?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is within the amendment that was—I brought this along because I assumed somebody would inquire about it, the amendment to The Public Works Act last fall.

Mr. Makarchuk: It says “may” though; it does not say “shall.” I think that is where the argument develops.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I cannot change the legislation today.

Mr. Makarchuk: I realize that, but are you considering, or are discussions being held between yourself as the minister responsible for central purchasing and other departments of government to ensure that these people in central purchasing do have some kind of clout?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is a committee which is chaired by Mr. Kelly which is working actively on this. The real question appears to be, on the part of members of the House, how quickly these things will be integrated. All I can tell you in that connection is I understand that the government of Canada have been working at this about seven years and they now have it—apparently not complete—but functioning to some degree.

Mr. Makarchuk: Then, of course, we cannot use that as an example of the way things run in Ontario, could we now? Could the minister give us a target date or an indication?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I would not be prepared to give you a target date for one thing, because there are still a great many unknowns. There are certain aspects of this that have already been accomplished and there have been substantial savings made.

I would like to correct what seems to be an impression that is around that The Department of Public Works would be the actual purchasing agent for everything. I should just mention in this connection that we are called the central supply purchasing function, but the policy is to use the purchasing expertise of other departments where they are major purchasers. We do, for instance, now, with drugs, which is under one specific operation; with paper, which is under the Queen's Printer; or with telephone communi-

cation services, which has been with this department for many years.

In certain other fields the departments which have expertise in purchasing a certain item, because they purchase a great deal of it, would be called upon to do this purchasing. But I said the other day I do not think that we want to think in terms of everything being purchased by one person or one person in each department. I think that one of our duties is to set up certain standards. It may well be that it would be the height of fallacy, for instance, as I think I mentioned the other day, to have Highways purchasing windshield wiper blades in Toronto and sending them up to Kenora.

Mr. Makarchuk: I do not think, Mr. Chairman, that anybody visualizes that there would be that kind of problem. You would create another real bottleneck, it would seem to me, if you tried to do something of that nature. As a matter of policy, within the department, it seems to me that in terms of setting the standards and possibly observing the functions or the purchasing of another department, to see that we are getting the best or the biggest amount for the buck that we are spending, this is the function that they could do. It seems to me right now they do not really have any authority to move into the other departments, to examine the other departments or tell the other departments. This is what you should be able to do, because there is either legislation—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think we would be competent to tell the other departments, for instance, as we are in the process of doing—in fact as we have done for some time on furniture—we have set standards. I do not think the Public Works would necessarily be the body that would tell The Department of Highways the specification of the automobile they might use because it would not necessarily relate to—we would not have the expertise to know what they need, nor would we have the expertise to tell Highways the type of snowplough they might use.

Mr. Makarchuk: But on the other hand you may have—

Hon. Mr. Auld: But in things like paper clips and—

Mr. Makarchuk: But on the other hand, you may have the expertise in certain fields to be able to tell a department. Right now you do not, as a matter of policy. Central purchasing does not have the authority to enforce any kind of standards in these other

departments. I understand it is a matter of a sort of moral suasion that they may use.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And reports to Treasury Board. I do not think that we have to have regulations to do all these things.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the minister what his department policy is concerning centralization and decentralization of government buildings?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Our policy is to build them where the operating department wants them.

Mr. B. Newman: In other words, you do not have a policy as to whether everything should be concentrated in the city of Toronto or should be distributed throughout the parts of Ontario? There is no reason why an Ontario Hospital Services Commission building could not be located in almost any centre, any city in Ontario, rather than creating the problems and multiplying the problems by developing one large complex such as you have here in Queen's Park. I would assume there would be many cities that would appreciate having one of the larger departments of government located there, if only from an employment point of view and the stabilization of a community point of view. Your department apparently does not have any set policy concerning this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have a set policy, as I say, and that is to build where we are instructed to build by the operating department.

Mr. B. Newman: Is it the intention, then, of the department to continue the development of the Queen's Park complex so that practically every main department in government is located here in Toronto rather than—that is the policy, then? It is the centralization policy?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Until we are instructed otherwise by the government.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. Then what is your policy when it comes to various government departments in a given municipality where you have offices? Is it the same type of a policy? That is centralization, consolidating all of the offices in one given provincial public building, rather than have them scattered to the four winds and located helter-skelter in a community? A fellow wishing to go to The Department of Labour goes to one end of town; wishing to go to The De-

partment of Transport, he may have to cross over to the opposite part of town; going to The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, he goes to a third area in a given community.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The policy now is to attempt, where we can and where we have to change because leases are expiring, to group those departments which can be put in a single place for the convenience of the public—and also for certain savings in terms of receptionists and joint use of common space and so on—to put them in one single place.

I think the first spot where we are in the process of accomplishing this is in Kingston where we just called tenders. We just completed it in Kenora, of course—I am glad to see that the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) is not here. There are certain facilities, of course, that do not lend themselves—for instance, you would not want to put a highway garage in with The Department of Social and Family Services and the parole officer, and this sort of thing.

Mr. B. Newman: It is easy to understand that certain—

Hon. Mr. Auld: But basically the policy now is, where we can, to centralize the office type branches of various departments.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. Then when do you decide that you should put up a public building, provincial public building, as opposed to leasing facilities and scattering them?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, we are getting into a certain amount of detail having to do with another one of the votes.

Mr. B. Newman: That would be main office.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it is in provision of accommodation, the next vote.

Mr. B. Newman: It is a policy matter, though.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is a policy that comes under the other vote.

Mr. B. Newman: I do not mind. We can discuss it under another vote if you wish.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Since we are into it, I can tell you this, that there are two factors that govern this. One is the availability of capital funds and the other is the question of long-term requirements of departments which sometimes change. We take both those

factors into consideration when we decide whether we should attempt to build our own building or we should lease existing accommodation or we should get somebody—ask for proposals from somebody—to build the building for us that we would lease for 10, or 15, or 20 years.

Mr. B. Newman: Is there a dollar factor involved as to, say, when rentals or leases amount to a given amount of dollars beyond that point it is cheaper for you to build facilities as opposed to leasing facilities?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You are speaking now of a question of dollars per square foot.

Mr. B. Newman: That is right.

Mr. Chairman: That is under vote 1802.

Hon. Mr. Auld: 1802, yes.

Mr. B. Newman: That is all right. I will take it up in 1802.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say yes. If we could not lease space at, say, in Brockville,, \$5 a square foot, or \$6 a square foot—whatever the market was in that area—if the only proposal we got was \$20, I think we would either put the office some place else or recommend to the Treasury Board that we should construct a building. But it would be very difficult to give you a blanket answer because the situation could vary. There are some places, of course, in remote areas, where you just cannot lease.

Mr. B. Newman: I will be more specific in another vote.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Ottawa Centre.

Mr. MacKenzie: I want to go back a little bit to the policy on central purchasing.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Could we wait for that to the last vote, which is where it is?

Mr. Chairman: Central purchasing is in the last vote.

Mr. MacKenzie: We are talking on policy here still, which comes under your policy and you do not seem to have a firm policy. You always back up and say it is another department and you have to do what you are told.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, that is the policy. That is what we are supposed to be.

Mr. MacKenzie: Surely the minister does not say, "I have to do it unopposed." Within

limits, I think surely he can fight this through when he is talking to the other ministers. But is it not fair to say that the minister should have a central purchasing department under Public Works to purchase those things which are common to all departments? You talked about furniture as being one thing, and that is common to all departments, and the scale looks pretty long on those things which are common to all departments. When the minister says he cannot buy a snowplough for The Department of Highways, he is probably right. That is not common to all departments, but does he not think it is time he had a policy, and was prepared to go to the council table and say "This is what we want"?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is exactly what we are in the process of doing—setting standards. You see, you want to remember one other thing, that the House votes funds to various ministers to various departments. When we build a new building, we turn it over to the operating department furnished. The furnishings come out of this budget. When they go to replace things, that comes out of their budget. We set certain standards which are enforced by Treasury Board, and the operating department then purchases. I do not think you would want us to set up a furniture warehouse out in Mimico and have a lot of money tied up in furniture.

Mr. MacKenzie: I think this should be looked at pretty carefully because to a degree I think you should have a central purchasing, because you know and I know your best dollar value is got when you buy in a big volume, which applies to furniture, and applies to anything. Surely there must be—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Provided you are using the volume in the same place. I do not think that that applies necessarily if you were to suggest that we should buy, for instance, all the vehicle batteries—

Mr. MacKenzie: All the which?

Hon. Mr. Auld: All the batteries used for replacements in vehicles run by various departments around the province—collect them here and ship them out all over the place.

Mr. MacKenzie: They have to be shipped out anyway from the factory.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes; and if we can set up certain standards and make arrangements with manufacturers to supply an estimated requirement over the year where, if, as and when

needed, with a certain minimum and a certain maximum, I think we can achieve what you want to achieve without what the member for Brantford said about having a great big red-tape bureaucracy.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Do you have a certain formula or criterion to choose to determine—

Mr. Chairman: Just a minute, Mr. Davison next.

Mr. Davison: I wanted to get into central purchasing, too, so if you are going to leave it until the last vote I will be prepared.

Mr. Chairman: Okay. Mr. Hodgson.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria-Haliburton): In the last two years the department itself has been decentralizing in some of its supply depots and some of its work depots. Has this programme been completed or is there still some more of this consideration to be given by the department at the present moment?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is completed now, just recently with the last three district offices. There are regional offices and district offices and that reorganization was started in 1968. It is completed.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: In other words, your own department policy is to decentralize as much of your function as you can.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Renfrew South.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Mr. Chairman, like all members in this House, I am greatly interested in the central supply proposition, but I can see many difficulties, and I can see it being a very deep and complex and difficult matter. I realize that there are certain items in office furniture—desks, filing cabinets, and so on—that could be pretty standard. But then there could be many other items that would not be standard throughout various departments. The thing that would bother me with central supply, is, would these materials be purchased from manufacturers, and warehoused at a central location?

When we talk about central supply or central purchasing, I think there really could be two different things—central purchasing and central supply. Today, with the exorbitant freight rates, not only in this province but right across Canada, the cost of moving

an item or a commodity from one part of the province to another is very, very high, unless this item could be shipped direct from the manufacturer and more or less prepaid. But if you were to pay transportation charges and freight charges coming into a central warehouse, and then when you got a requisition for that particular item and shipped it to Ottawa, for instance, anything you would be trying to do in saving dollars would be destroyed by the cost of moving that merchandise firstly from the manufacturer to central supply warehousing and secondly from the warehouse to the point where it is required.

So I can see many, many problems in this unless it was set up on two different bases—firstly, normal common items that you would warehouse and send out as required, and secondly those items not so common that you would have shipped direct from manufacturer, but in many cases you would be paying double transportation charges which would eat up anything you would save in volume purchasing.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That, basically, was what I was trying to explain a moment ago. There are some things—and that is why this is a complex undertaking—that can be in effect physically centrally purchased and warehoused, like we do in the Queen's Printer's operation for stationery and for the government operations here.

Mr. Yakabuski: Just to pursue that a bit more—I am not quite through yet.

Mr. Chairman: I think that we are getting quite far away from the vote we are dealing with. This more properly comes under vote 1803—general supply. We get into the whole question of supply in that vote.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Have we anything under 1801 here that—

Mr. Makarchuk: I was next under 1801, I believe.

Mr. Chairman: No, Mr. Pilkey is next.

Mr. Pilkey: I hope this is the right vote—1801.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are dealing with the main office.

Mr. Pilkey: I would think that this is the vote that it comes under, because this is salaries and employees' fringe benefits. I understand that the governments—particu-

larly since they constructed a number of new buildings—the—

Mr. Chairman: Are you under item 1?

Mr. Pilkey: I think 2.

Mr. Chairman: No, we have not moved from item 1 yet. There are a couple of more speakers. But you come under item 2.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Under personnel services.

Mr. Pilkey: I am not too sure really, the amount of money does not seem adequate to me to come under this one that I want to talk about. You can correct me. Let me tell you what I want to talk about. This whole question of contracting out of work as it affects the permanent employees—

An hon. member: Vote 2?

Mr. Pilkey: Well, you say 2, but \$192,000 does not come under that. It would appear to me that it should come under the first vote.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Under the amount paid to contract services, such as cleaning and garbage collection and so on, it would be under management of buildings, which is the next vote.

Mr. Chairman: Well, I do not know about main office—

Mr. Pilkey: Under what?

Mr. Chairman: Main office and employees benefits would be under this I would think.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Technically that deals with the people we have on our own staff and the next vote deals with the contractors that we use.

Mr. Pilkey: Under personnel services?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you want to talk about our own staff.

Mr. Pilkey: I want to talk about how it affects your own staff. Frankly, it appears to me that what this government is doing is contracting work out. Now the point that I want to make is, obviously it must be affecting your own staff. In a sense it is reducing employment to your own people. And secondly, my guess would be that these people who get this work from The Department of Public Works are paying the minimum wage, and that is all, to their employees.

You might make the argument, Mr. Minister, that this is very competitive, that we

might be able to get it done cheaper by an outside contractor, but many of these outside contractors, particularly in this kind of work that I suppose you could class in a sense—it is not very highly skilled in any event, let me put it that way—usually these are the very people who are being exploited in our society. And it would appear to me that we as a government would be in a much better position if we hired those employees so that they got a fair wage and they got fair benefits relative to the rest of the society, as opposed to contracting this work out and having workers, as I point out, exploited.

I just wanted to know how much work actually is being contracted out and what the policy of Public Works is in this respect?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In terms of cleaning, starting three or four years ago, the department's policy changed and we, in effect, phased out those cleaning staffs that we had who were part-time—and you may recall there was a good deal of controversy about hours of work and so on—and decided to experiment to get the cleaning done by contract.

By and large, that has turned out to be successful and effective and economical, and now I would say—and I have not the figures in front of me—that the majority of the cleaning work is now contracted out, with certain exceptions in this building and Osgoode Hall.

Mr. Davison: Do you know how much they are paying their employees?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. Except that they must be paying them over the minimum wage.

Mr. Pilkey: Let me ask another question then: Could the minister tell us how many employees of the government, whether full-time or part-time, were affected as a result of the policy change three or four years ago that you are talking about?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that we have never laid any people off as the result of entering into a contract. As people separated or retired we regrouped them and brought in a contract for a specific area. I can give you the figure of the department's complement.

On April 1, 1968, it was 2,147. In 1969 it reduced to 1,937. In 1970 it increased slightly to 1,967 and as of April 1 this year it is 2,165. That is in permanent staff. In the unclassified staff which would include,

I would think, those cleaning people, it has reduced successively since April 1, 1968, when it was 928 to 560 at the present time. That would include, of course, other than cleaning.

Mr. Pilkey: That is 1968 to 1971?

Hon. Mr. Auld: From April 1, 1968, to April 1, 1971.

Mr. Makarchuk: The point that you have missed, Mr. Minister, it seems to me that—

Mr. Chairman: Are you through?

Mr. Pilkey: I get the number of employees, but the minister also indicated that this was economical—and I appreciate the fact that we are attempting to do things as economically as possible—but it would be interesting to know how much these workers, through these contractors, are receiving for the work that is being performed. I appreciate that you probably would not know that, but you did say that it was in excess of or equal to the minimum wage and that is what bothers me. This whole thing of government contracting out, we look at the whole question of economics, not thinking of the human element that is involved in this question.

Mr. B. Newman: The social element.

Mr. Pilkey: Right. And just what kind of impact? It seems to me that when we balance economics against the human element and the social element that is involved then we have got to make the decision as to what we have to do.

I just prefer us as a government, if I could use that term, to weigh that factor and then make the decision, as opposed to saying, "It was strictly an economic decision and our decision was that we contracted the work out."

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is one other fact that you might take into consideration. I cannot tell you how valid this is, but it is something that occurs to me; as I recall—of course I was not in the department at that time—there was a good deal of complaint on the part of some of our casual staff who were working relatively short hours.

I think it is reasonable to suppose that some of the services, if not all of them that are employed by us, are then in a position to have the same staff maybe working in two or three different jobs and giving them

a full work week as opposed to—what was it? About 20 hours?

Now I cannot tell you that that is a fact, but it occurs to me that it is possible because I do remember that was one problem I think the department had at that time: The complaint that people could not live on even the hourly rate that we were paying, which was above the minimum wage. They were in this position.

Mr. Pilkey: Do we have any part-time employees now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that nobody—I do not think so. I do not know where they would be. We have some staff who would be on contract and would not work 12 months of the year—summer casuals and this sort of thing.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Yes, Mr. Chairman, on the overall policy of the department in regard to provincial facilities and urban centres, the present centralization here in Metropolitan Toronto shows the value in co-ordinating all the government departments within a limited radius of the Legislature, and certainly the new facilities that we are able to avail ourselves of and to visit are proof of the principle.

However, Mr. Chairman, I think that it is time that the department re-evaluated its present accommodation procedures in the large urban centres of Ontario. I am thinking in particular of Ottawa and Hamilton, because perhaps there is a time when a community reaches a certain size, or the region reaches a certain size population-wise, where you no longer can have a viable provincial organization when they are housed in office facilities all through the city or the region. This is exactly where we stand in Hamilton, with your OHSP, your Social and Family Services, the parole—it is spread all through the city.

The federal government realized this many years ago, and they have been leaders in this, in the fact that our community has a federal building of substance where most of the departments are housed under the one roof. I think this is a basic principle that our government should decide upon so that when their leases come up for renewal in places such as Hamilton and Ottawa they can have them staged so that we, too, can have an Ontario House or Ontario building where people can go and know this is the arm of the government of Ontario.

I think in Hamilton we have a challenge, because the city is a city that is sort of like the phoenix; much of the centre of our city has been demolished for urban renewal, and is beginning to rise again. The government of Ontario could play a still further role in this meaningful redevelopment by perhaps having included in this master plan an Ontario building to house all these various departments.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I mentioned a few minutes ago, in our planning branch which receives the space requests from the operating departments, we have a group, one of the functions of which is to correlate all the various departmental requirements in terms of size as well as location, and to advise whether it is viable to centralize those departments, offices which can be centralized and make it convenient for the public and also more economical in terms of operation.

We have five areas in the province now which have been looked at which we are pursuing. One of them is, as I mentioned, Kingston, where the contract has been awarded for the structure. We have five more under study.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Mr. Chairman, will we proceed with a small community such as Kingston ahead of the major centres such as Hamilton and Ottawa?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was there, I am informed, because we had a number of leases which were about to expire. This is one problem in correlating these things, that if you have a lease for a substantial amount of space that may run for four or five years, you cannot afford to leave it vacant. You may be able to negotiate an exchange of leases but sometimes you cannot. I cannot tell you specifically about Hamilton, as to why we have not done so thus far, but I will certainly find out.

Mr. Chairman: Does part 1 carry?

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, under this vote—policy—is it true that The Department of Highways does all its own building and has its own—

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. The Department of Highways purchases its own land for highway rights-of-way, and builds some of its own structures, like salt sheds and so on. For district offices and garages and sort of permanent buildings The Department of Public Works constructs for them.

Mr. Spence: But then you have the liquor commission, all these liquor stores that are built—do they come under your department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, the staff are not civil servants and the commission is not directly part of the government and its has its own policies regarding construction and leasing and so on.

Mr. Spence: And their own staff for constructing these buildings. But they go on a leaseback all the way through, is that right?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not tell you. I believe they construct some of their own buildings and they may lease some, and they may do some on a leaseback. I know that they lease some because I know the one that they have leased from the Catholic Women's League in my riding, as a matter of fact.

Mr. Spence: You take also the Provincial Police buildings?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Pardon?

Mr. Spence: The Provincial Police offices—you build them? They come under your department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We act for all departments in construction. We act for all departments in the purchase of property, with the exception of The Department of Highways which purchases its own rights-of-way.

Mr. Spence: But you purchase liquor license—

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, we do not, because they are not actually a department. Nor do we act for Hydro.

Mr. Makarchuk: I want to just fall off a bit and go back to the previous problem raised by Mr. Pilkey. But first, with regard to the idea that the government should embark on the rather major programme of having Ontario buildings similar to what the federal government has done in various communities—as you say there are various leases and so on—perhaps you should start co-ordinating and planning for the future in terms of the new leases that you sign—the length of time and so on, so they would expire preferably at a similar time. In the meantime you could be working on the project of establishing these kinds of buildings in the various communities around the city, not only, as was pointed out by the member for Hamilton, because of the convenience of having everything under the roof,

but so people at least would know where to go when they have certain problems instead of having to run around.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is what we are now doing.

Mr. Makarchuk: Eventually you will be working out some kind of programme. Of course you could also look at it in terms of a job-creating programme which would be sort of a direct social policy of this government, to ensure that jobs are available. This is one of the ways you could do it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: One thing where I think possibly we might differ from the federal government is that there are more varied requirements from all our departments that deal with people. For the federal government, I would guess, it is pretty easy to estimate what you need for a post office and customs house for quite a few years—that, and, say, a regional income-tax office. I think that they lease most of their space for relatively new and changing things like Manpower offices and so on, where they do not happen to have some spare space in a government building.

But we deal with so many departments whose needs can change over the years as programmes change, for instance, with Social and Family Services and Justice, that my guess is that it will be a long time before we see the day that the province is not in leased accommodation, even though we may centralize half a dozen—

Mr. Makarchuk: I would question whether the changes would be that great, Mr. Minister, in terms of Social and Family Services, your license-issuing places—driver's licences, etc.—the various scattered facilities which every community has. I am quite sure that you would be able to predict with a great degree of certainty as to what you really would require. I am not of the opinion that it would be that different.

But getting back to the original point, Mr. Chairman—the matter of these people who are being used for cleaning where you contract out: Do you at any time try to find out what wages these people are getting from the contractors? It seems to me that the Ontario government, in a sense, has become a party to institutionalizing poverty, because most of these people really receive a poverty wage. I doubt if there are any fringe benefits involved in this thing, whether there are any pension plans or anything of that nature, and what you think you may save economically,

this was pointed out, you would probably end up paying out in Social and Family Services or hospitalization assistance or premium assistance on OHSIP and so on. And the chances are that in the long run the costs are probably a lot higher in terms of just straight dollars and cents, not taking into account the human factor, the cost which you cannot assess too well at the moment.

I think one of the things you should do is try to find out exactly how much the contractors are paying these people.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would think this would be a duplication of what The Department of Labour does, because, as I understand it, in their operations they have their inspectors going around to check about minimum wage and discrimination and so on.

Mr. Makarchuk: Yes, but surely if they pay them the minimum wage—and surely you realize the minimum wage will not provide an adequate standard of living. As a matter of fact, your minimum wage just does not provide any kind of living; and taking into account the fringe benefits that people require that are probably lacking in these cases, there probably are no fringe benefits whatsoever. I think it is your responsibility, if you contract it out to these people, to find out whether they are getting a good deal in the end because you—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would not disagree totally, but I think that you might agree that our primary job as a service department, as far as our department is concerned, is to get the work or the product efficiently and at as low a cost as possible—economically.

Mr. Makarchuk: I am not too sure that you are not bringing this corporate approach, or that this is exactly what the function of the government is. Perhaps this is the way General Motors would operate or any other corporation. For good reasons this is their intent, but surely the government has, shall we say, broader aims in its employment policy than just trying to get the most for its buck in this particular case when it is dealing with people. I do not think you will get the most for your buck because you will end up paying it out at the other end for some other department.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pilkey, is it on the same point?

Mr. Pilkey: Go ahead.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, the previous member does have a real point because what you are doing in your present policy is that you are condoning the creation and the permanence of a working poor. You will notice that The Department of Trade and Development, to which Ontario Housing is responsible, in its bids always includes certain salary scales or certain wage scales that must be paid, and they are pretty high; in fact, I would say extremely high compared to what these people are working for in working for a contractor.

I do not think we should permit simply a minimum wage being paid. I think we as a government should probably set a policy that not minimum but at least a living wage be paid the employee.

Mr. Pilkey: Can I follow up that point? I understand that The Department of Labour has a fair wage policy and if my memory serves me correctly last year during the estimates of The Department of Labour I received a copy of that fair wage policy. Now surely if The Department of Labour has a fair wage policy it ought to be applicable to the services that are performed for this government. I just do not think we can say—

Mr. Chairman: Are you talking about a fair wage policy?

Mr. Pilkey: I am talking about a fair wage policy for work performed. Now I understood, and maybe I am wrong in that, Mr. Chairman, but I thought that they had a fair wage policy.

Let me follow this a little further then, in any event. There are a number of municipalities in this province that do have a fair wage policy. Obviously organized labour feels that when you are tendering a contract you ought to tender it out to someone who is organized. Many municipalities will not adopt that, but what they do adopt is a fair wage policy. In other words, if somebody is tendering for a contract, as they would here for cleaning, then there is a fair wage policy in that contract that they have to meet. If they do not meet it then they do not meet the tender specifications. It should be part of your specifications then that there ought to be a fair wage policy in there.

How do you get a fair wage policy? A fair wage policy comes about from taking into consideration the average wage in that specific area for the classification of work that you want performed. Then in addition

to that, what you do, in my view, is put all of those people who are going to tender for that work on an equal basis in terms of wages and salaries that are being paid. Nobody gets an advantage there. In other words, one contractor, who may be paying his employees \$2.50 an hour, will not be put at a disadvantage because somebody can hire at a minimum wage of \$1.65. You know then he starts out even.

It seems to me that as a government this is what we ought to be doing. We ought to have in those tenders a fair wage policy commensurate with the wages that are paid for comparable work within, say, the Toronto area, if it is cleaning. I do not know what we are paying cleaners at the moment, but maybe our standard of wages and benefits would be a proper criterion to use to determine what the wage should be in terms of a fair wage policy.

I would urge the minister to take that into consideration, because what we are talking about here is not just the economics, but we ought to be considering the human element as well. We do not want anybody treated any differently from those people that are getting a decent wage. I want to just close on this point. I recall—well, no, I am not going to make that point. I conclude there.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Hamilton Mountain.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Mr. Chairman, also relating to this whole situation, of course, are the security men who are hired for these independent agencies as well as the cleaners.

Mr. Pilkey: I am sorry I missed that.

Mr. J. R. Smith: To the member for Oshawa, I just mention the security people. I notice there seems to be a number of them; one particular firm, for example, in the complex across University Avenue in there at night. Undoubtedly many of the large provincial projects have outside security men on duty at night and very often these people also fall in the same employment trap of low wages.

Mr. Pilkey: If I might add, Mr. Chairman, with great respect, that is true. I mean the security guards in the Province of Ontario are on the lower rung of the economic ladder. One of the points that we made on Bill 167 was that security guards are not able to organize under The Labour Relations Act.

We thought that that was really a crime, as a matter of fact, that they were not able to organize because they are the very people that are being exploited in our society.

Mr. Chairman: Has the minister any further comments?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. I have listened with interest to these comments.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 1801, item 1, carried. We will move to item 2, personnel services.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the minister if there is a central depot in his department; or a central office, to which an individual could apply for summer employment?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, personnel.

Mr. B. Newman: All right then. How does a student know that certain jobs are available for summer employment?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In our department I think the total is—it is higher this year—only 80.

Mr. B. Newman: Is that all that you hire? How about the exhibits at the CNE?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Those are staffed by the operating departments. We build the exhibits for them and they staff them.

Mr. B. Newman: Is that some branch of government?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would be the operating department itself.

Mr. B. Newman: Of that specific department? In other words, the health exhibit would hire its own individual employees through The Department of Health.

One of the things that does disturb me, is that I get a lot of requests from students for summer employment. Who do I go to? Why should I have to refer each one to 22 or 24 departments of government? There should be one office to which you refer these students and, in turn, that office should delegate that application to the specific department.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would suggest that you send them to The Department of Civil Service which knows the requirements.

Mr. B. Newman: Even The Department of Civil Service turns around and tells you to have the student apply—

Mr. Yakabuski: Put that in your budget speech.

Mr. B. Newman: I want to put it in here instead because—

Mr. Yakabuski: This is not the place.

Mr. B. Newman: All right, maybe this department is progressive enough that it will see the merit of the thing and will take the forward step. That is all. It is The Department of Public Works and there are thousands of various things that it is doing during the course of the year that possibly it could undertake to be the clearing house for some of this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would seem to me that the logical place is The Department of Civil Service which is where we go if we need people. The only thing I would say is that there are a number of students from certain disciplines, like civil engineering, who automatically head for Highways because that is where most of the jobs are. There are some specialties where, it would seem to me, that a student would probably be better off to apply there in the first instance.

Mr. B. Newman: The problem that I run into, Mr. Chairman, is that, you know, you contact various departments including Civil Service and they ask you, why do you not contact that department. By the time the youngster writes back and forth or you, yourself, do the contacts for him, it might even be too late for the job. I think government is sloppy in not centralizing.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): If you get an answer, send it over to me, too, will you please?

Mr. B. Newman: Is that not right? There is a member from the government side who even agrees.

Mr. Chairman: Any more on item 2, personnel services? Carried.

Item 3, accounting services. Carried?

Mr. Davison: Under 3, where it says "services, \$70,200." What is this? It is in each vote and it amounts up to quite a pile of money.

Mr. Chairman: Accounting, salaries, employee benefits, transportation and communication, services, supplies and equipment.

Mr. Davison: Services, \$70,200. What does that include?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That includes the cafeteria staff for the dining rooms here, the audit service, printing and duplicating, and maintenance for equipment. But the big item is cafeteria staff for this building.

Mr. Pilkey: I am sorry, I did not get that one. What for?

Hon. Mr. Auld: For the food service in this building.

Mr. Pilkey: Do we pay for that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: When the House is sitting. This is to guarantee that there is a sufficient staff and that is why the food prices are what they are.

Mr. Pilkey: I know about the prices, what about the quality? Any way we can talk about that?

Mr. Yakabuski: There is a steak coming up tonight. Be careful. They have good steaks, as you know.

An hon. member: They could not even boil water.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Yakabuski.

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Chairman, I just would like to—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, we do not employ the staff. They belong to Mr. Dineley, but we pay them for the time when the House is sitting outside the regular hours, and it also covers the coffee and tea and cookies.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Renfrew South.

Mr. Yakabuski: Well, Mr. Chairman, the good minister partially answered what I wanted to know, but I am quite interested in the catering service here. Now I understand that J. and J. Dineley Limited has a contract with The Department of Public Works and that is an annual contract?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Just a minute and I will tell you exactly what it is. The cafeteria agreement is dated November 1, 1969, and it covers the services in this building—the members' dining room, the ministers' dining room, the Prime Minister's dining room and the Speaker's apartment. We do the janitorial services.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): The Prime Minister's dining room? Oh, ho, ho!

Mr. Yakabuski: You just came in a bit too early.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Do you want the details?

Mr. Yakabuski: No, not really. Is it an annual thing?

Mr. B. Newman: Oh, sure, we want to hear—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is for three years and thereafter from year to year, but it may be terminated by either party upon giving 90 days' notice.

Mr. Davison: Is this for the Macdonald Block? How is that operated?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is the same.

Mr. Davison: The same. You supply the space?

Mr. Yakabuski: Is there a certain amount for this job? I mean, we know the prices of the food and that. Does your department pay them so much per meal or how—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We, in effect subsidize—as I mentioned a while ago—the staff who are here in the evenings and the free food that is there—you can call it that. The subsidy is to make sure that a staff of five is maintained in the members' dining room when the Legislature is not in session. That is just for regular hours—\$121 toward a staff of eight in the members' dining room when the House is in session, and so on down the line here.

Mr. Davison: But the food that they supply, that just comes out of what we pay for our meal, is that it? We just do not have a subsidy there?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do not subsidize the food, but we subsidize the staff, so in effect we subsidize the total cost of the—

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Chairman, am I right in thinking that the department provides the space?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Yakabuski: Provides the equipment and subsidies in the members', the ministers' and the PM's dining room to a degree for the off-hours, or the off-session times.

Tell me, for instance, in the cafeteria in the Macdonald Block and in the cafeteria upstairs—in these cases, does the department just provide the space and the equipment?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The Crown is responsible for normal janitorial services and for providing heat, light, water and other services of a similar nature. The Crown supplies the necessary kitchen and cafeteria and equipment, including utensils, crockery and cutlery. The contractor is responsible for replacing and repairing any of them that he breaks. That agreement is again for three years, thereafter from year to year, and may be terminated by either party on 90 days' notice.

Mr. Yakabuski: Is there any subsidization—

Hon. Mr. Auld: And he also operates vending machines at various locations.

Mr. Yakabuski: Maybe I did not hear you fully previously. Is there any subsidization of the meals themselves?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not directly, no, but there is a subsidy in the Macdonald Block to the extent that we supply the light, heat and water. Consequently, when he is setting the cost of his meals, he does not have to take that into consideration.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Davison.

Mr. Davison: The lounge down in the new members' part.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This, I think is pretty well the usual arrangement in effect in industrial and business catering.

Mr. Yakabuski: The lounge down in the new part would not be in this vote yet, would it?

Mr. Jessiman: That is the Eddie Sargent room.

Mr. Davison: Does he have anything to do with that too? The lounge down in the new part?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Davison: That is completely separate. Run by you people? You have not got your licence yet. Have you applied yet for it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, we can deal with that when we come to maintenance and buildings, if you want.

Mr. Davison: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But to my knowledge, no one has applied for a licence.

Mr. Chairman: Any more accounting services?

Hon. Mr. Auld: And I do not know that anybody has decided—

Mr. Pilkey: Now that we have put liquor in the parks, is there any chance of getting it in here?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We will deal with that when the time comes.

An hon. member: I have not noticed any drought around here.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, with regard to this aspect of the facilities in this building, is there any thought that the cafeteria on the fourth floor is going to be improved on the way it is now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: What we are proposing to do, now that we have got the immediate priorities done around here, is to take a look at the whole food operation here—the facilities, the locations and so on—we think it is about time to up-date the operation.

Mr. Nixon: Oh yes. You will get substantial support I think on all sides. In the subsidy that goes for the—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Will you put that in writing so that I can—

Mr. Nixon: Well, it is on some kind of a record somewhere I assume.

But in the subsidy that goes for the help that is available in the dining room, do the decisions on hiring reside wholly with J. and J. Dineley?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Nixon: You do not have any requirements there in any way as far as the normal minimum wage requirements are concerned?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No political requirements.

Mr. Nixon: That is really not the one I was concerned about, but I do not think that this is quite the time to bring it up.

Mr. Yakabuski: Has the Leader of the Opposition not been happy with the staff up there?

Mr. Nixon: Sure, they are great girls. It is just the company at some of the other tables that is sometimes disagreeable.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 3 carried? Carried.

On to vote 4, services.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, may I ask of the minister about the comment in

his annual report that mentions, under audit branch, the cost of control of vehicle operations. What is entailed under audit services? That is on page 20 of your report.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That would be at our main operation in Mimico, where the department has 148 vehicles, I think it is. We run a garage out there where we do repairs to our own vehicles and the vehicles from some other departments particularly The Department of Health.

Mr. B. Newman: So you have centralized repairs then?

Hon. Mr. Auld: For some of the smaller departments for their Toronto-based vehicles. We look after those Department of Health buses that go around for TB, among others.

Mr. Chairman: Management services. Carried.

Planning services.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I notice that item has multiplied many times since 1970, and I am wondering what is the cause.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is, basically, what I referred to a few moments ago about planning for accommodation. The branch was started only two years ago and has been built up substantially; for instance—as you will see from the estimates—the number of leases that were involved which are negotiated, of course, by the property branch. And going along the lines of some of the discussion a few minutes ago trying to make our operations more efficient in leased and built premises.

Also the long-range moves of various government departments, where we have been getting departments back into the complex now that the Mowat and Ferguson and MacDonald and Hepburn Blocks, are almost complete.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering how to distinguish it; here you call it planning services and you talk as though this means personnel, people.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it is space. There are people in the branch, of course, but they are planning the use of space and allocation of space.

Mr. MacKenzie: But does this \$226,000, which is in the estimates for this year, pay people or what does it pay?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It pays people and the other things that the people require such as supplies and equipment, transportation, communications.

Mr. MacKenzie: Then salaries and wages take up pretty near \$200,000 of the \$226,000; the other \$26,000 is other things? Is this technicians on drafting boards or what is this that you are dealing with here?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I beg your pardon?

Mr. MacKenzie: Technicians on drafting boards or what is it you are dealing with?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can give you a breakdown of who the people are and what their classifications are. Perhaps the deputy minister might give you a breakdown of that.

Mr. MacKenzie: The most I am trying to do is differentiate between planning services and personnel services. What is going in here for labour and what is—

Hon. Mr. Auld: They are totally unrelated. The personnel people deal with the personnel matters of the entire staff of our department. These planning people are planning accommodation space, for the operating departments whom we serve. I can tell you that it is like a great big chess game.

Every time somebody moves or if a new branch is established or there is a royal commission, we have got to find space for them. We have got to get partitions put in and a whole host of things.

Mr. MacKenzie: Then you have another planning department, you would say, for planning construction of new buildings?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, the design and construction end of the department.

Mr. MacKenzie: You do not call this design and construction then, this business of putting up new partitions and all the renovations of the—

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, this is accommodation planning, not construction planning, other than the fact that no doubt, if there are 20 people who have to be put in some space, somebody has to decide how many partitions there are going to be or something like that.

Mr. MacKenzie: You talk about accommodation planning. Surely, in any new building, you have to plan accommodation before you can even plan the construction of the building? You have two accommodation planning groups?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think, though, that this is primarily dealing with, not new buildings particularly but moving people within buildings. When we build a building, we know we need so many thousand square feet. Perhaps from the time the building is started until it is finished, departments have changed in their own structures and there have to be some changes made in fitting people in there.

Of course, with the kind of construction we are doing now with movable partitions and office landscaping, this is becoming a little more flexible.

Mr. MacKenzie: What I understand from what you say, Mr. Minister, is that there are two accommodation planning groups—one group which plans accommodation in new buildings and one group which plans accommodation for renovations. Would that be correct?

Hon. Mr. Auld: One that plans the building, the weight on the floors, where the services go—

Mr. MacKenzie: No, I am talking about the accommodation.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —and another one that works out how you use the space that has been built. Is that a fair definition?

Mr. MacKenzie: Hopefully it comes the other way.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: Mr. Chairman, I do not know whether or not this completely comes under this vote, but in regard to the planning detail there are certain criteria that you have to take into consideration. I wonder how much your department does in this regard. That is, when you decide to build or add to the complex at Queen's Park—do your planning people actually take into consideration where those people might possibly come from? How they might get here, as to city, best routes, things of this nature? If it was not Toronto, it might be some other city.

I am concerned because—the part I am concerned about mostly is that if we keep on adding to government complex in downtown Toronto, we are creating the need for the Spadina Expressway and things of this nature. We are adding to the problem of the city. How much concern, in your planning, do your people have in this regard?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed—and you can correct me if I am wrong—that before the new complex was planned, we were in touch with Metropolitan Toronto and the

people there; gave them information as to where our employees at the time lived so that they could do their planning, as I suppose they do with any other large office complex. It really is not for us to tell the city what they should do. We give them the information so that they can do their transportation planning.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: Do you consult with other areas on a similar basis of co-ordination? Do you put forth your proposal and what your requirements are going to be and ask them if they can meet it before you consider centralizing the building or—

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean, say, if we are building something in Sudbury for some department?

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: Right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We would be in touch with the municipal people, of course. We have got to take a look at zoning and all these things. Depending on the size of the operation, we would want to make sure it is convenient for the staff who had worked there; that there be adequate parking facilities and so on. I would assume that we would be working in concert with the municipal people where we are constructing or leasing any space.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: Perhaps we could pursue this a little bit further. Was it your responsibility to do this in regard to Ontario Place?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 6, planning and services?

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, would this be the right place for talking about planning accommodation? To talk about the parking of automobiles in front of the building here and the general utilization of Queen's Park?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I suppose it is as good as any place.

Mr. MacKenzie: May I have the minister's feelings in regard to getting the parking away from the front of the building and building adequate parking at the back here?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think that it would make the grounds more attractive, but I think there is an economic consideration which often is of great importance in the provision of underground parking particularly in

Queen's Park. I have no idea what we would be involved in. But I would imagine the first thing we would have happen is somebody would say we could not cut the trees down. I do not know how you can put parking under the trees. I think it would be desirable. Certainly the increase in demand for parking both for visitors to the building and for the staff here and the members and so on is pretty great.

Mr. Pilkey: Could I—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do not own the whole area. I think I am correct, we only own the property down about as far as the flagpoles, and Metro or the city owns the rest of that in front and they own the north.

Mr. MacKenzie: When I first came here it was a two-way street out in front of the buildings here and the traffic has become so bad that it is one-way, and even that hardly handles it. I am wondering if the department is doing anything with regard to further parking, and hopefully parking which is not in front of the building?

Mr. Chairman: Have you finished asking—

Mr. MacKenzie: I would like to hear his answer.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that in the long-range planning for around this building it is hoped to do away with the parking there and sort of have a big ceremonial area and make it more convenient for pickets and so. But it will be a little while.

An hon. member: You are looking to the day when the present leader of the Opposition is the Premier of the province, I guess.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That reminds me too, we have another problem about going underground here, we have a subway.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Yakabuski.

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Chairman, the minister has pretty well answered my questions, thank you.

Mr. Pilkey: I would support the proposition for providing more space for pickets, but I do not think that is the necessary criterion to provide additional parking. I am talking from a long-range point of view obviously.

Has the government studied the parking facilities that the city of Detroit did in their park? As I understand it, in the heart of Detroit they lifted that whole park and put

all parking underground and then put the park and everything back again.

It looks exactly as it was previously and it supplied a lot of additional parking. I am not thinking just for the members, I am thinking of parking per se, that people could purchase a space. They have done it in downtown Toronto for example, there is a lot of underground parking that the municipality—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think they did it in Cleveland too as part of an urban renewal scheme there. I am informed that we have not studied the Detroit situation. It may not be difficult to get some volunteers to go and study it.

Mr. Chairman: A select committee.

An hon. member: Do it in the daytime.

Another hon. member: I will show you through, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Planning services—item 6—carried?

An hon. member: Carried.

Mr. Chairman: That carries vote 1801? Yes. Vote 1801 agreed to.

On vote 1802:

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: I have received a number of inquiries in my area regarding property in Peterborough that has been under consideration by the department from a former member of this Legislature. Could you tell me what the details of the government requirements were or are, and has a lease or contract been signed with Mr. Brown, and what is the best suitable property available in the department's opinion?

Hon. Mr. Auld: As a matter of fact, we got requests from The Department of Social and Family Services and The Department of Health who had offices in Peterborough who wanted additional space. So it was decided that we should do a study of all government offices in the Peterborough area. The planning branch to which I was referring a few minutes ago completed its study and recommended one location to accommodate most government departments in the Peterborough area requiring new or larger quarters, that they be consolidated and that the building contain about 8,000 square feet.

A study was made of the city to find a building which would provide 8,000 square feet of space and meet the additional requirements of all departments, which included parking for 40 to 50 cars. The real estate

branch was in touch with a number of local real estate brokers, Richard and Barnes Real Estate and Russ Martin Real Estate, and there were no listings for office space to accommodate the departments.

There were a number of other vacant buildings in the area investigated, but the owners were either unwilling or unable to convert the buildings to suitable office space and actually none of them had adequate parking facilities either. The only building which appeared suitable was the CIAC insurance building which is on George Street, which you may be familiar with. But the asking price was \$5.50 a square foot, and there was no leasehold improvement allowance and no partitioning and very limited parking.

Our people determined that the building that Mr. Brown was vacating on 139 George Street, when he moved his automobile operation to his newly purchased building, would provide suitable office space to meet our requirements. The planning branch agreed that Mr. Brown's building had an excellent location with good access to the public, and so as usual we contacted all the operating departments who wanted space and they all agreed with this location because it was where they wanted to be downtown.

Simply because it was Mr. Brown, I wanted to be sure that we had done the proper thing and that we had looked at it very carefully, so we got two independent appraisers to come and take a look at the whole situation there, and we have the reports—we got the reports about a month ago—and these premises were considered by both the appraisers and their comments were—this is Bowes and Cocks of Peterborough, a Mr. Roberts: "There is no doubt in my mind that the lease offered by Keith Brown Motor Sales was fair and reasonable." And the one of Mr. McNicol of Gibson Willoughby of Toronto said in summary: "It is my opinion that of all properties inspected, 139 George Street North would provide the best accommodation at the most reasonable rate on the best terms and with early possession." So we actually went through the usual procedure in looking for space, but in view of the fact that the most suitable space was owned by a gentleman who had been a member of this House—we felt it advisable to have our views confirmed or otherwise.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: Are the prices comparable per square foot?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, the prices were not. The price that CIAC had was \$5.50 a square

foot with no leasehold improvements, that is no partitioning, no painting and the various things that are necessary to be done. And the one for Mr. Brown, was, I think, \$5.30.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: A 20-cent differential.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well plus about \$18,000 to \$20,000 of leasehold improvements.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Nixon.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the minister if he could explain to the committee the role of the department in the planning, the development, the building, the bringing to completion of Ontario Place? Was there a departmental role?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We managed the contract.

Mr. Nixon: From the beginning?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes. We engaged the architect. And when the project management company went bankrupt, the department took over that function in about the last two months. Actually what we did was hire their staff and just carried on.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if you could explain to the committee what problems the project management group faced that forced them into bankruptcy? I understand this was just about December of last year. It is just in the last few months.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not know that we know. I would ask Mr. Creba if he could tell you.

Mr. Creba: The contract we have is with Secant (Central) Limited and they were a wholly-owned subsidiary of Secant Construction in Montreal. Now it was Secant Construction in Montreal which had financial difficulties and consequently brought down Secant (Central).

Mr. Nixon: Their problems were not associated with the Ontario Place project?

Mr. Creba: Ontario Place was in the black all the way. It was making money for the company.

Mr. Nixon: Then associated with the plans of Ontario Place, did it appear in the first instance as a project to be built under the supervision of this department, or were the funds associated with it in The Department of Trade and Development?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The funds are voted in The Department of Trade and Development estimates.

Mr. Nixon: What is the rationale for that? If you have the responsibility of supervising its development, what makes that department have a different type of responsibility when surely there should be some consistency in the policy approach?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I cannot tell you specifically because I was not involved at the time. But I would say that the reason was that it was a specific project. It was outside the normal budget of Public Works—outside our capital construction budget, and it was obviously deemed advisable at the time to put the whole package, as it were, in Trade and Development, rather than having some funds in this budget and some funds in their budget. It was dealt with in the same way as Expo '67 at Montreal and Expo '70 at Osaka.

Mr. Nixon: What about the decisions that resulted in the escalation of the costs? I am familiar with the fact that a larger area of land was filled in and for that reason the project was expanded in size, to make use of it, and so on. But surely there is some responsibility on the part of the government when they announce a project of such importance that there should be a concept of finality when it is established, and we can go on from that base.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think that you should probably ask that of the minister in whose estimates the funds are, because I do not think we are really in a position to answer you definitively.

Mr. Nixon: Are you in a position to answer definitively in the total cost of the construction—that is without the inclusion of the exhibits?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, because we have supervised the construction for Trade and Development.

Mr. Nixon: And it was on a cost-plus basis for your department. They had the responsibility to meet it and you had no responsibility to see that these costs were not exceeded?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We simply carried out the supervision of the construction which they initially undertook and then decided to expand.

Mr. Nixon: Will your responsibility be at an end when the building is officially opened?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Other than for maintenance we supply the cleaning services and the extraordinary maintenance. They do the day-to-day maintenance. They will fix their own light bulbs and stuff like that.

Mr. Nixon: Have you any idea what the cost would be, exclusive of the actual construction cost? It is very difficult in looking at the Treasurer's budget to find out just how much is for construction.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid we do not have those figures here, but I think if you ask the Minister of Trade and Development, I imagine he is expecting you to ask and I am sure he will have the information available.

Mr. Nixon: And you can assure me that under no circumstances will he refer to another minister as being responsible in any way for the decisions associated with the cost or changes in plans?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I will send him a copy of today's Hansard, and I trust that he will not.

Mr. Nixon: There have been instances before when that ball was in the air quite a bit.

Mr. B. Newman: Did you charge him for the services of your personnel?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. B. Newman: So your personnel contributed substantially then, by way of consulting services, to the overall cost—not to the cost, but to the project itself?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not tell you the amount, but I would say you are right. It is an overhead amount that we carried as we have carried in, I guess, similar circumstances for other departments. It is one of the services we provide that we do not charge back. And there are a number of others.

Mr. Chairman: Item 1 carried?

Mr. MacKenzie: What happened when the contractor went bankrupt? What happened in the administration of the contract? How was it carried ahead when this firm went bankrupt?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Would you answer that, Mr. Creba.

Mr. Creba: When we were informed that Secant's Montreal head office operation was in receivership, we called all the sub-contractors, all the suppliers, and we had about

300 people at a meeting in the Macdonald Block, and advised them of this. This is what we anticipated. They went into receivership about half an hour after we heard about it.

We had a meeting with them all and told them that we would honour their contracts and I do not think we lost half an hour's work on the whole project.

Mr. MacKenzie: I am more interested in how many dollars you lost and who paid the bills and where did the dollar split come. How much had been paid in advance to the general contractor? Was he paid up to the actual construction? Is this half of the reason why you are into increased costs in that building, in that you did not have them bonded?

Mr. Creba: No, actually the government has paid approximately \$77,000, doubled twice. Under the terms of management our payments to Secant were in trust and we were co-signatories to the cheques. These funds then went to Secant, Montreal, who in turn dispersed them to their sub-contractors. The moneys we paid were overtime, workmen's compensation, vacation pay, and, in some cases some of the workmen did receive NSF cheques. We felt honour-bound to pick those up, because there were salaries involved. Any moneys we put out were salaries and benefits only.

Mr. MacKenzie: There was no financial bond associated with Secant originally?

Mr. Creba: There was no bond on it. We felt under the circumstances—because of the type of contract we had with them when we were co-signatories and co-signers on all the sub-contracts—that bonding was not necessary.

Mr. MacKenzie: In other words are you saying that all of the work that you originally contracted for will be completed at the same price as you originally contracted for that work, irrespective of the bankruptcy?

Mr. Creba: Yes, it will all be completed for exactly the same contract price, except the \$77,000 that I have advised you of.

Mr. Chairman: Section 1 carried?

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, before you carry section 1—this would apply, I believe—I wonder if we could have some further information as to how you enter into a contract for lease-back facilities of the type that has been provided for The Department of Agri-

culture, The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs and to some extent the Ontario Institute in Studies for Education. The ownership for the land and the building remains outside the department and the government from one end of the agreement to the other, is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think in general terms the majority of the agreements would be where it is somebody else's land and somebody else's building. The lease is for a period of 20 years at the expiry of which we get title to the land and the building.

There have been some of these operations where a building has been built on our land, in which case we would get title to the building at the end of the 20 years.

Mr. Nixon: Did you not say that where it is built on private property, after paying the terms of the lease for 20 years, you get title to the land but not the building.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh no, the whole thing. There are some leases where people have built buildings at our request where the lease might be 10 years—it is just a straight lease.

Mr. Nixon: What is the term of the OISE lease?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Thirty years.

Mr. Nixon: And at the end of that term the title to the property and the building will rest with the government?

Hon. Mr. Auld: With OISE.

Mr. Nixon: They do not have very much that we do not give them. I would presume that would be a public title.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It will be owned by OISE, which is a public body.

Mr. Nixon: On the basis of the provision of the facilities that were required and approved for The Department of Agriculture, let us say, there are one or two questions in that connection. Was their any consideration given to a location outside Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that they wanted to be in Toronto and, I assume, as close to Queen's Park as was feasible.

Mr. Nixon: Would you then get the specifications that the department itself would put forward, develop plans and then put out a general tender? Would it then be decided that it would be a lease-back construction rather

than the more regular procedures where you would buy the land and build the building?

Mr. W. A. Gray (Property Branch): When it became apparent The Department of Agriculture had to move out of the quarters it was in the only building available, in our estimation and through search, was the building at 1200 Bay. We just arranged a straight lease; there is no lease-purchase arranged for it. It is just a straight lease, a 10-year lease. At the end of the 10-year lease it is hoped at that time they will be moving back into government-owned buildings.

Mr. Nixon: That was built to your specifications?

Mr. Gray: No, it was not. It was a developer's spec building—a building built on spec by a developer in the hope he would rent it to someone.

Mr. Nixon: What about the Financial and Commercial Affairs building?

Mr. Gray: That is the same; it was a spec building.

Mr. Nixon: There is sort of a deadly similarity between those two buildings, it seems to me.

Mr. Gray: The building at 1200 Bay was designed by Fairview and 555 Yonge was designed by Olympia and York; there is no connection whatsoever. They are straight leases. They designed them; we had nothing to do with the design of the building. All we are doing is renting them and paying them rent.

Mr. Nixon: Could you tell me the cost of the provision of those facilities?

Mr. Gray: Each one is \$5.25 a square foot per year.

Mr. MacKenzie: Air conditioned?

Mr. Gray: Air conditioned. They supply everything except hydro, which we pay.

Mr. Nixon: Would you have the total of the provision? We could figure that out, I suppose.

Mr. Gray: Each building contains about 100,000 square feet.

Mr. Nixon: Okay mathematicians, figure that out.

Mr. Chairman: Section 1 carried?

Mr. Nixon: No, wait a minute. What other buildings are available for governmental headquarters in Toronto? Do you still have a large list of properties and office buildings which you use or has the old policy to bring the civil service home to Queen's Park been fairly effectively completed as far as you people are concerned?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It has not been completed. We will be moving Education next month down to the Mowat Block, the new building. University Affairs moves up from University Avenue to the same building next month. Providing construction goes ahead as scheduled, it is planned to move Trade and Development down here in late fall—October-November to the Mowat Block, which is the other one—

Mr. T. R. Hilliard (Deputy Minister): I am sorry—the Hearst Block.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The Hearst Block, which is the 25-story one.

Mr. Hilliard: The Mowat is the 25-story one; the Hearst is the one opposite.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The Hearst is the one on the corner, which is the latter one to be completed.

Mr. Nixon: I understand from this discussion last year, I think, that the government owns a large block of land to the east of Bay Street.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is bounded by Bay, Wellesley and Grosvenor—

An hon. member: Grenville.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Grenville.

Mr. Nixon: What is planned for that—further expansion of the office facilities?

Hon. Mr. Auld: What is being considered at the moment, although there are no specific plans, is more than just a series of office buildings. We engaged a consultant about two months ago to look at this whole thing to see what would best be located in there. It is not anticipated that the whole thing would be required for office buildings in the foreseeable future, and it may well be that there would be some kind of a complex that might include some accommodation, housing, and shops as well as office buildings.

Mr. Nixon: In which case the government would own and operate it and lease it to private enterprise?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are a number of alternatives that might be considered. But at this stage we are just actively studying what might go in there. We have made no recommendations as to how it might be done or in fact what might go in. We do not own all the property as yet.

Mr. Nixon: Is the consultant a firm or is it an architect?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it is an individual; we have taken on temporary staff actually, on contract.

Mr. Nixon: What would his terms of reference be—here is a block of public land; what shall we do with it, or something more definite than that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In essence—what our own accommodation needs are and what the other needs of the city are in that area.

Mr. Nixon: Are there any government departments that have made recommendations that would move their headquarters out of the centre of Toronto, like Lands and Forests, if not Agriculture, or Mines?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There has been no official request to us.

Mr. Nixon: The planning of Hydro in its programme to build a new head office—is that correlated with the overall government public works programme to provide facilities, or does Hydro work completely independent of you?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They are completely independent of us.

Mr. MacKenzie: How do you get into this planning and overall co-planning concept like this, when you have said here earlier today that you people only do what you are told with regard to building buildings. I do not quite relate the two—

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is a slightly different situation here, in that we supply accommodation and we know that we will need more accommodation for other government departments that still are not yet planned to be moved back to the Queen's Park area, if in fact they will be sometime. We are carrying out a government policy at the moment—the government decided many years ago to start acquiring land over there. I could not tell you specifically how much we own, but I think we own most of it with the exception of some of the frontage on

Yonge Street. We have been directed by the government as such to come up with some sort of a plan that will be more than just office buildings, because the government feels it is not desirable to build a whole lot of office buildings there.

Mr. Nixon: Will that be ready for 1976?

Mr. Chairman: The member for Kent.

Mr. Spence: How much of the Queen's Park complex is completed now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Is it?

Mr. Spence: Is it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, but it will be by the end of the year.

Mr. Spence: It will all be completed at the end of the year? Then you are going to expand from there on?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would assume.

Mr. Spence: Well, we see here a lot of leasebacks. Do you own the land of these leasebacks in different parts of the Province of Ontario? Do you buy the land?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In some cases we do, but in most cases we do not.

Mr. Nixon: Is it part of the lease that you will finally own the land?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Spence: You make that agreement, that you own the property when the lease runs out?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Basically, the definition of a leaseback is where somebody builds something for you and you pay for it over the period of the lease and then you own it.

Mr. Chairman: Is section 1 carried?

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I just want to pursue this a little bit further about the two different directions the department seems to be headed in. In one case, the minister talks about total planning for all departments and they have engaged a special consultant to do this. In the other case he said—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not for all departments, for a specific piece of land.

Mr. MacKenzie: Okay, maybe for a specific piece of land. But for whatever it can be used, I gather, you try to determine what it can be used for and who can use it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: What it should best be used for, including the office facilities we would require and perhaps extra office facilities that we might expect to require for some years.

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes, for some years, for your department or other departments?

Hon. Mr. Auld: For other departments.

Mr. MacKenzie: Other departments. So you are, in fact, planning for other departments. Is that what you are saying? Yet you say that you cannot plan for other departments. You cannot plan ahead and plan the economy and phase these buildings in so you can help the unemployment situation, because you have to do what you are told. The two directions do not seem to make sense.

Hon. Mr. Auld: One of the reasons is there are no funds in this budget to build other than the things which are set out in the blue book. There are things that we might be planning and there are things where approval has been given, for instance, in the general construction field to start sketch plans.

It takes quite a few years between the request from an operating department for a facility and the time that they are actually occupying it.

Mr. Pilkey: Is there any possibility of accelerating some of your plans in light of the unemployment that now exists?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean accelerating them further, because we have accelerated them.

Mr. Pilkey: All right, okay, accelerating them further. I do not think you are accelerating them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Within certain reasonable limits, things could be accelerated if further funds were voted.

Mr. Pilkey: If we get through this fairly fast today, we would be able to get right at it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I must admit we are assuming that we may get this approved and I do not think we are holding up. There may be a few shovels in the ground some place.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to make simply one comment on Ontario

Place. I am sure the minister is aware that Ontario Place was made in the USA. The three vessels that are the backbone of the whole thing are American vessels.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Sunk again from the war of 1812.

Mr. B. Newman: Apparently you have put to good use something that was made in another jurisdiction, so we have Ontario Place made in USA.

I wanted to ask the minister specifically concerning the Windsor Teachers' College. The E. C. Rowe Expressway apparently did take over some of the property that was originally part of the teachers' college. Was that sold to The Department of Highways or was that simply given over to The Department of Highways?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed it was sold to the city of Windsor, or we are selling it.

Mr. B. Newman: You are selling it? It has not been sold as yet? Is the teachers' college itself part of—does it belong to a department of government or has the title been transferred to the University of Windsor?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed we still own it.

Mr. B. Newman: You still own it, so it is only being operated as a branch of the University of Windsor but title remains in the province. Is there an intention of giving the title over to the university?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that we would transfer it if The Department of Education requested that we did so. We have not been requested so to do as yet.

Mr. B. Newman: So as far as you are concerned, it remains the property—who is responsible for the maintenance there? Is that your department or is that The Department of Education?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would be The Department of Education.

Mr. B. Newman: The Department of Education.

Mr. Chairman: Is section 1 carried?

Mr. Spence: What about Osaka? Did The Department of Public Works have anything to do with that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We supervised the hiring of the architects.

Mr. Nixon: You would have to go over there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I was not there.

Mr. Nixon: You were not there in another capacity?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Somehow I missed Osaka; I do not understand it.

Mr. B. Newman: You can go over there now.

Mr. Spence: What have you done with it, just handed it over to Japan?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you direct me to go, I can go over and tell you how it looks now.

Mr. B. Newman: You did not ask for direction in other times.

Mr. Spence: What happened to it? Was it handed over to Japan?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The building was demolished.

Mr. Spence: Demolished

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think that was part of the agreement with the Expo '70 people.

Mr. B. Newman: How about the disposal of any of the contents?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The exhibits, I am informed, were owned by Trade and Development and I assume they disposed of them.

Mr. Nixon: Since the experience with Seacant Limited, have you less enthusiasm for this management contract approach that was very much of the departmental presentations for the last two years?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have more enthusiasm, because had that been a fixed contract with one contractor, we would have been in real trouble.

Mr. Nixon: Under these management control contracts, just how do you achieve the control of funds voted to this department? It must be payable, I suppose, stage by stage, as the construction goes forward. Is it the responsibility of the management group to request the funds and you approve completion?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The management group is directed to proceed from stage to stage so that, in fact, when the first stage is done, then the department directs them to go to the next stage or the one after.

Mr. Nixon: You have departmental inspectors who approve the payment?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Actually we have more control this way on a large job than we would have if there was a single contractor who for instance—correct me if I am wrong—might really speed things up, and go a lot faster than we had anticipated and we might have budgetary difficulties. Or, by the same token, he might get slow somehow and we would then have unspent funds and be behind schedule—at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Nixon: Speaking of being slow, have you got the gymnasium of the School for the Deaf finished?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In Brantford?

Mr. Nixon: No, in Belleville.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, Belleville. Well, I saw some photographs of that this morning. The swimming pool looks as though it is pretty well done.

Mr. Nixon: I remember—it must have been four years ago—the minister indicated that the building which had been there had to be vacated if the wind velocity got above six miles an hour. I was quite surprised to hear, I think, the Minister of Education make some reference to it this year. Has it been completed?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is anticipated to be completed in August, 1971.

Mr. Nixon: That is this year, by George.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Kent.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, I understand you built a new Ontario House in London, England. Does that come under—

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. It was renovated in 1963 or 1964.

Mr. Spence: It was just opened this year, was it? Maybe I was reading wrong. I thought it was opened this year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, no. It has been in the same location for many years. It was renovated in 1963, I am informed, and it has been functioning ever since.

Mr. Chairman: Section 1 carried?

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, under section 1, I have one little question here yet. The minister has a fairly sizeable piece of property in the downtown Windsor area on

which the tourist reception centre is located. What immediate plans does the government have for that property? Is it your intention to have it remain as a park or do you still intend to put up a provincial public building?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are no immediate plans for it.

Mr. B. Newman: Are there any long-range plans?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are no long-range plans at the moment.

Mr. B. Newman: Are you going to allow it to remain as is?

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I recall from Tourism and Information, we have an agreement with the city and they look after the landscaping and stuff. At the moment, I think, from departmental priorities, that the priority in Windsor is a registry office, which—

Mr. B. Newman: We like seeing the vacant space there. It does add to the downtown picture all right. But we would likewise like to see the construction of some type of public building to centralize government offices as much as possible.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are looking at it. Windsor is one of the places like Hamilton, where we are looking at the present accommodation that we have—the terms of leases, and the expected requirements of various departments.

Mr. B. Newman: You have been looking at that now for over 15 years—perhaps not you yourself, but the department has.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If we do, then I guess we take a look at it as it changes.

Mr. B. Newman: It was an election issue in 1959. The next thing was it was going to be a dinosaur park.

Hon. Mr. Auld: With your results I would think you would hope we never build it.

Mr. B. Newman: No. We hope you would build there. But we hope you would build what is needed in the location, and we just hope that you do not try to use it as a political football as it has been used now for two elections.

Mr. Nixon: They might not actually build anything until they win a seat now.

Mr. Chairman: Section 1 carried.

Section 2, the member for Renfrew South.

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Chairman, under item 2, design and construction, I am assuming that the department has an architect—one or more—on staff?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have 15.

Mr. Yakabuski: You have 15 architects on staff. That is an increase of how many in how many years?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It has remained the same, I am told, for quite a number of years. The total complement is 15 architects, 38 technicians, 12 stenographers and 12 other staff.

Mr. Yakabuski: And 15 full-fledged architects.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Yakabuski: Then I am assuming, too, with a staff like that you do all your own designs?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do about 70 per cent of our own architectural work, and it amounts to about 20 per cent of the total dollar volume. We do a lot of specialized things and we do a lot of the smaller sort of routine day-to-day — what we have attempted to do, and apparently with great success, is have a sufficient staff and keep them busy the whole time. When we get into major projects we engage associate architects, because the work load can vary a great deal from year to year.

Mr. Yakabuski: I know the minister is quite new to this department, but has the thought or the idea occurred to people in your department perhaps that this staff, this facility, could be expanded maybe whereby you could do work for The Department of Education?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do work for The Department of Education. You mean work for school boards?

Mr. Yakabuski: I am thinking perhaps the school buildings themselves, usually the local or county boards engage an architect.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think The Department of Education has its own architectural staff—I do not know how large it is—which works, I gather, in the field of approving plans and perhaps some consulting, I do not know. It is a somewhat specialized field, I assume, building schools.

Mr. Yakabuski: This vote 2 still consists of design and construction. This Secant company, was it Secant you mentioned?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Yakabuski: Are they a Montreal firm?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They were.

Mr. Yakabuski: Do they have—

Hon. Mr. Auld: At least Secant (Ontario) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Secant Limited of Montreal.

Mr. Yakabuski: They are Toronto-based also?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They had a Toronto operation.

Mr. Yakabuski: Is this still in existence?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, because the parent company went into receivership.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Davison.

Mr. Davison: Under this vote, I think this is where we can discuss where we do not feel the government is moving up fast enough as far as the unemployed people are concerned.

I think you did try to point out that by spending an extra \$8 million you were putting more people to work. I think the records show, over the last three years, that you have spent an extra \$8 million each year. But really you have produced no more buildings nor put any more people to work—just on the cost alone of buildings and wages. Here this year when we could do something you are just really staying at the same pace. Did you not try to get that improved a lot?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I cannot agree with you. For about four or five years the capital budget was relatively stable.

Mr. Davison: It is the last three years it has gone up.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The last three years and particularly this year between the Treasury Board approval in January, which increased the projects that we were undertaking in the last fiscal year, and the increase in total construction budget this year. It is a sizeable increase.

Mr. Davison: It is up \$8 million, am I right? It was up \$8 million last year and the minister at that time explained the \$8 million was just the costs, the material and

labour costs. It is in Hansard. He made this statement.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that last year, at the beginning of the year, it was increased from the previous year of 41.5 to 44 which would be three and a half million.

Mr. Davison: Three and a half last year and eight this year. Your figures are different from mine, mine show—

Hon. Mr. Auld: You may be using the total. Because in the design and construction there are other items, like salaries and wages of the people we were just talking about, employee benefits, transportation, communication services, supplies and equipment. Actually, out of the 54.5 total there, the actual building is \$52 million.

Mr. Chairman: Any more questions on vote 2?

Mr. Davison: Just a minute. This year, then, you feel that you are helping the unemployment situation quite a bit by the amount that you have here. Is that what you are saying? This was the best the government could do. Did you fight to get any more to try to improve the unemployment situation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think it is fair to say that the ministers of all the operating departments had other projects that they would have loved to have seen proceed. But it is very difficult—

Mr. Davison: They have had to cut back on their budget.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —to produce working drawings and be ready to tender for a building. It is just not feasible to keep, say, \$30 million worth of work in terms of working drawings sitting on a shelf. Requirements may change, new materials come along and so I think it is fair to say that we have done pretty well as much as it was financially possible to do sensibly in speeding up the programme. I think it is fair to say that we have not much in the way of things that are to be ready to go to tender that are not in the programme.

Mr. Davison: Other than these projects—

Hon. Mr. Auld: The things that we have already done—the \$4 million that was authorized in January and the other \$4 million that has been authorized in this year's budget.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Nixon.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, your participation with other government departments—education—was raised on the other side there a minute ago. One area where in education there is a lot of construction going on is in the provision of community-college facilities. I think we are making a larger commitment to new buildings there even than we are here at Queen's Park and the associated buildings for bringing home the public service, so to speak. Are you involved in the acquisition of land or in the construction and the planning of these buildings, or does the department do this exclusively?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. In a number of places, the community colleges have occupied land which had been provincially owned and under this department's jurisdiction, but the board of governors of the community college acts really like a school board and they are responsible to the Minister of Education, or The Department of Education, for how they go about their construction. My understanding is that they produce plans for accommodation when they get approval from the department, then they go ahead and build it.

Mr. Nixon: Public Works is not involved in the community-college programmes in any way other than perhaps a request to transfer property that is publicly held?

In the acquisition of property of that type, are you advised by The Department of Education or any other department as to where you should be appraising property and be prepared to purchase?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Nixon: You have no purchasing programme from any government department at all by which you purchase land for them?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh yes. I think the distinction here is that The Department of Education does not hold title to the land that the community college occupies. The community college is autonomous to that extent as a university would be, or a local school board.

If The Department of Education wants to build, say, a teachers' college, then they would come to us as they have in the past and we would acquire the land and build the building for them. But as far as a community college is concerned we are not involved and The Department of Education is not involved in that way, either. If the community college wants to expand they

buy some more land, and they go out and buy it themselves.

I am told that we did build some structures in some of the first colleges before the actual boards were established but since that time—

Mr. Nixon: Let me ask you this. Does the department by law have to give an appraisal of land value for another department that may wish to purchase it? I know this was a requirement five years ago when conservation authorities were making land purchases. It was necessary for The Department of Public Works to give an appraisal of value and actually approve the purchase on behalf of the conservation authorities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. I think what happened in that case was that in certain circumstances the parks integration board, which has to give approval to the conservation authority to purchase land, may have asked Public Works on occasion to act as sort of an independent appraiser and sort of confirm the price that was proposed, on which the province was paying a grant.

Mr. Nixon: In this acquisition programme that is being questioned in the other committee—for example, on the Niagara Escarpment, which would be largely The Department of Lands and Forests or the parks integration board—is it your responsibility to advise them on land values or do you actually purchase them?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, in the case of Lands and Forests, we would actually purchase it for them.

Mr. Nixon: You have actually made the purchases associated with the acquisition of land on the Niagara Escarpment? How do you undertake—

Hon. Mr. Auld: The funds for that are not in this budget; they are in the Lands and Forests' budget.

Mr. Nixon: But the decision to purchase, at least the advice to purchase, comes from the technical staff of this department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Nixon: And with the minister's approval, or is it just simply a sharing of staff?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not sure I understand the hon. member. Do you mean with my approval?

Mr. Nixon: Suppose Lands and Forests decide that it would be advisable to purchase a piece of property for recreational purposes. You people have the requirement to look into costs and finally to make the approval as to whether it is to be purchased or not. Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Actually what happens is that we get the request from Lands and Forests. We send our people out and either get an offer to purchase or an understanding, an estimate, in our view of what the value of the land is. We report back through the parks integration board to say that if Lands and Forests want so many acres beside some lake this is what we think it is worth and we have got an offer to purchase if it is decided to be proceeded with. Or we report back and say we think it is worth \$10,000 and the owner will not sell for \$100,000. Then the parks integration board directs what should then be done; whether there should be expropriation or whether Lands and Forests should look somewhere else or just what would happen.

Mr. Nixon: How would you justify the advice that you would give Lands and Forests, actually the approval that you would give to Lands and Forests, that would result in some of these recent purchases which were really, apparently, at escalated cost? Cost that in fact doubled over 22 months, according to information that is now public?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are you speaking of the Credit Forks?

Mr. Nixon: Yes, that was the one, for example, in the paper today.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have not seen that, but you have to remember that there was another factor there. What happened in that case is what I have described. Lands and Forests requested that this property be acquired for park purposes. The parks integration board agreed and gave Public Works direction to go out and report back on what it could be purchased for and what the value is.

I think the situation there is that there has been same talk of the average price per acre for which the owner purchased this and what we paid for a very attractive part of it, which was worth—it was in the high part of the figure. There is a lot of other land there which is far less desirable—

Mr. Nixon: He still holds some of the land that the government did not see fit to purchase?

Hon. Mr. Auld: And he also had an application in to The Department of Municipal Affairs for subdivision. I do not know whether it has been dealt with yet, but I think his subdivision plans would have to change, too.

Mr. Nixon: So you do not feel that that land would be available for subdivision development and therefore he had to sell it? At least he has got some of it on his hands which is going to be sort of a personal park?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not quite, but I think it is fair to say that the price that Public Works purchased this for and which we recommended as being a fair price, was a fair price.

Mr. Nixon: Could you not have bought it at a lower figure if, in fact, you had negotiated a year earlier when the purchase of the land was recommended by a public report?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think it is fair to say that there are a lot of things we purchase today that we could have purchased for a lot less 10 years ago or five years ago.

Mr. Nixon: But this is something more than just hindsight. This is the official report in which the purchase of the land was divided into categories of importance and this land evidently was designated as of prime importance, during the period—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please, for a moment. This is real estate. This really has nothing to do with vote 2, design for construction.

Mr. Nixon: Vote 2?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, item 2 of vote 1802.

Mr. Nixon: We are dealing with—I am sure the minister would like to clarify the situation. We are talking about how he deals with other departments.

Mr. Chairman: You passed item 1—real estate—and now you are getting back into real estate again.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The only thing I would say, Mr. Chairman, is—perhaps this might get us back on the track—first of all there are many things that could be purchased, that we

could purchase today, that will cost more five years from now. It is a question of the funds that the operating department has budgeted and what their priorities are. As I recall the Gertler report, if we were to attempt to acquire all the land that was recommended in there, I have no idea what it would cost, but we would not acquire—

Mr. Nixon: It is divided into parcels? Well, Mr. Chairman, if you will permit me, and I think—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think Lands and Forests budget for land purchase has been—

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): It was \$750,000 last year and this year.

Mr. Nixon: But where is the responsibility for the Niagara Escarpment? Where is the responsibility? Where does it lie to proceed and initiate the action? Does the request come—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It comes from the operating department. In this case, it could come from Lands and Forests.

Mr. Nixon: The request would come designating the area in which they want you to act or to advise? The responsibility lies with Lands and Forests to initiate the action and it is not your responsibility to be aware of the recommendations that Gertler or anybody else would make, and to move out on your own to make the purchase?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, because there are no funds in our budget to do so.

Mr. Nixon: So that you would give the advice? You would actually accomplish the purchase, but the purchase price would be transferred from the other departmental account?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Peacock? Along the same line—construction and design? If it is on construction and design, you are in order. If not, then you are out of order.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Mr. Chairman, would it be in order then to raise it before the vote passes because it is within vote 1802. I wanted to raise a matter relating to the role of The Department of Public Works as agents for other departments of government? One of my questions falls strictly within construction and design, and another falls along the same line.

Mr. Chairman: If it is on item 2, then go ahead.

Mr. Peacock: I wanted to ask, Mr. Chairman, in regard to this, does the department, as agent, undertake to place options for more than it is instructed to place? Did it in fact do this in the case of the—did it place options for more land than was actually finally purchased in the case of the purchases from the Caledon Estates—more than 506 acres?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed, no.

Mr. Peacock: In regard to that, is the department able to say, in each instance of purchase of land along the Niagara Escarpment for The Department of Lands and Forests, what the price of the acreage in the previous sale was in evaluating a fair price to be paid on behalf of The Department of Lands and Forests?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I suppose we could if you check it in the registry office.

Mr. Peacock: You would not have that available now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Is there any specific one perhaps?

Mr. Peacock: Yes, the 800 acres associated with Cape Chin and Wingfield Basin on the peninsula, purchased by The Department of Public Works for Lands and Forests.

Hon. Mr. Auld: When was that purchased?

Mr. Peacock: That would have been within the last year or so.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We purchased it?

Mr. Peacock: Lion's Head, Cape Chin, Wingfield Basin, Cabot Head, on Georgian Bay?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We can get it for you.

Mr. Peacock: Can I switch to the design and construction question then, Mr. Chairman?

In regard to Ontario Place, and I know it has been raised earlier, but now that The Department of Public Works is the on-site construction manager, is it The Department of Public Works which must go to Treasury Board for increases in the cost, over and above the estimated cost?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. You are speaking of Ontario Place. Mr. Nixon, I think, asked that a little earlier before you came in.

Mr. Peacock: The very same question?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The funds for Ontario Place are in the estimates of The Department of Trade and Development.

Mr. Peacock: So that if you require more money than has been voted, it is up to Trade and Development to go and get it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If it is a structure that we are building for The Department of Health and the funds are in these estimates and if there is any additional money required, it would, perhaps, be our responsibility to go with The Department of Health, if it was because of a request that they had made after the project had started, for some new kind of equipment, or some additional space, or something like that.

Mr. Peacock: I take it that because this is not under The Department of Public Works it was not tendered. It was a proposal call on the part of Trade and Development, similar to the way the Ontario Housing Corporation works?

Mr. Creba: No, this was handled by The Department of Public Works. We sent out pre-qualification announcements to pre-qualify people who could handle the job and from that we then gave them more detailed requirements on which they bid their fee to manage the contract.

Mr. Peacock: Then am I correct in my original question that it is not strictly a tender?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, because if it is a project management operation you first of all employ the project management firm, which was done, as Mr. Creba has just mentioned. Then they in turn call for bids in stages as the project goes along, and those are subject to the approval of the owner which, in this case, would have been us.

Mr. Peacock: So it was more in the nature of a proposal call?

Hon. Mr. Auld: For the project management firm.

Mr. Peacock: Right. You know what you want and you canvas those people in the field that you think are capable of performing or fulfilling your needs and you invite them to—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the one thing in this field which is a relatively new one, which you have to look at pretty carefully, is the background of the firm. There

are quite a number of people who have set themselves up as project management people and who are probably quite competent for an average or a standard type job. But for a thing of the complexity of Ontario Place, with a deadline which was particularly important for opening, we looked, I guess, pretty carefully—

Mr. Peacock: I hope this question was not asked earlier, Mr. Chairman. Did DPW have to impose a new set of cost-control procedures on the project after taking it over?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Chairman: Any more questions on section 2, design and construction?

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, the name of the contractor on the Ontario Place was Secant, was it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The project management firm, yes.

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes—was Secant, which is a Montreal company.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There was a Montreal parent of an Ontario-based company. Secant (Ontario) was the firm.

Mr. MacKenzie: Was their charter taken out in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. MacKenzie: And you mentioned a minute ago about having to do a real background search on all these firms. What happened? Where did the breakdown come that you did not spot that Secant was not financially capable of carrying on?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The staff that they had, whom we took over, were quite competent and the operation, as Mr. Creba said, was in the black here. Their financial problem arose from the parent company and I do not know what the background of that was.

Mr. MacKenzie: But the evidence is there, I think, Mr. Chairman, that whoever did the investigation of Secant missed the point that this company was not financially capable of carrying through the project and, in fact, did go bankrupt. The point has been made before that—

Hon. Mr. Auld: You may recall a very large nationally known construction firm which went broke. We engaged them 15 months before they ran into financial difficulty, and I suppose in the construction field, you never

know, somebody is building something and they make a wrong guess on the contract and—

Mr. MacKenzie: Not the insurance companies too often, though.

Mr. Nixon: This staff has been taken on by short-term contract by the department and when that building is completed, they are then on the employment market.

Mr. Chairman: It is now 6 o'clock. Are there any more questions on this vote? Can we carry it before we leave?

Mr. Nixon: What vote, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2 of this particular—maybe I have not got the right terminology and maybe I am not as learned as the leader of the official opposition, but, however, item 2 of vote 1802.

Mr. MacKenzie: I would like to talk about uniform building standards. I would like to talk about building construction information.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the Committee took recess.

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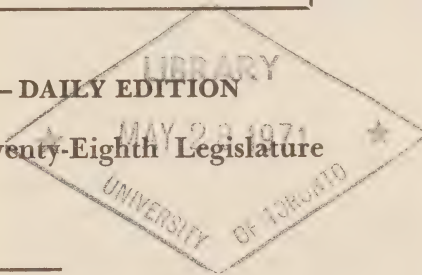
STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Public Works

Chairman: Mr. W. Hodgson

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature



Thursday, May 13, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1971

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (continued)

The committee resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Mr. Chairman: We left off on item 2 of vote 1802—design and construction. Mr. MacKenzie.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Oshawa Centre): We were talking about Ontario Place when we left, but we can leave that for a while.

Mr. Chairman: I thought you were going on to building standards, is that what you started to talk on when we left?

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes, Mr. Peacock just mentioned that the minister had some figures he wanted to table first.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Public Works): Yes, as a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, I might just for the record give you some of these figures that came up in the previous item.

First of all, in connection with the Credit Forks purchase—we purchased approximately 504 acres from Caledon Mountain Estates Limited who at that time owned something over 3,000 acres in the area, which they apparently had been acquiring over a substantial period of time. We paid \$1,450 per acre for this parcel. It was made up of parcels which Caledon Mountain Estates had purchased over a period ranging from May until August, 1969. They had purchased 44 plus acres at \$444 an acre; 218 acres at \$700 an acre; 145 acres at \$1,000 an acre; and 98 plus at \$763 an acre; for an average of \$726 an acre.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): I am sorry what was the last figure?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was \$763.

Mr. Peacock: That was 98 acres plus at —?

Hon. Mr. Auld: At \$763. In our purchase of these 504 acres, in addition to acquiring these, we acquired a right-of-way of approximately 1.5 miles of the Bruce Trail, 100 feet

wide, with a proviso that there would be no cutting of trees or buildings on the western slope of the remaining property which they have for 1.5 miles from the edge of our property up the hill.

Mr. Peacock: That is on the easement or right-of-way?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, the easement is really closer to the railroad tracks down in the valley.

Mr. Peacock: No tree-cutting on either side of the perimeter of the—

Hon. Mr. Auld: On the western slope of the escarpment for a depth of 1.5 miles back, as Professor Gertler had suggested. That is basically the purchase of that property.

Mr. Peacock just before dinner asked if we could give him the figures of what we had paid for a number of properties, and I will just read these off.

There were 800 acres at Cape Clim.

Mr. Peacock: Chin?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Chin rather—it is the member's writing.

The Wingfield basin—we paid for that 800 acres, \$147,250. The 840 acres at Meaford, Hogg's Falls, Kolapore. At Meaford there were 100 acres for which we paid \$5,000 and the total for the whole thing is \$262,875. The 44.5 acres at Devil's Glen, we paid \$21,000 for. Two hundred acres at the Mad River Valley—for one parcel of 100 acres we paid \$26,000 and for the other 100 acres we paid \$32,500, including all the improvements on the land. I gave you the figure about Credit Forks.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, the Mad River property was in two pieces. How much at \$22,000?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Two 100-acre parcels—100 acres at \$26,000 and the other 100 acres at \$32,500, which included all the improvements on the land.

Mr. Peacock: Could I ask one question in connection with that answer, Mr. Chairman?

Does the minister know the date on which the offer was made to Caledon estates for the 504 or 506 acres? Or the date on which the option was given by Caledon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: February 8, 1971.

Mr. Peacock: Was the date of—

Mr. W. A. Gray (Property Branch): The offer to the government.

Mr. Peacock: The offer from the government?

Mr. Gray: To the government.

Mr. Peacock: The offer to the government by Caledon?

Mr. Gray: That is right.

Mr. Peacock: In other words, they gave an option date of February 8, 1971.

Mr. Gray: That is right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. MacKenzie.

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes, I was wondering—I mentioned during the opening part that we should deal to some extent with uniform building standards. In this respect I am wondering what the minister's thoughts, what his department's thoughts, are with regard to uniform building standards. I might even remind him that the member for Wentworth North (Mr. Connell) when he was minister, mentioned, announced rather, that you had let a contract for a building which was going to be built on the modular type, which is part way into the uniform standards. I would like to get the minister's view on this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, very briefly, as I understand it there is a national building code which has been produced by the federal authority which is available to all provinces and communities. It has not been adopted by legislation in any province of which we are aware.

The policy of my department is we build to the national building code in those places where it is operative. There are some jurisdictions—we build according to the rules of the jurisdiction in which we build. If we build in Toronto we build according to the Toronto bylaws. If we build in Brockville we build according to the Brockville bylaws.

A number of municipalities have adopted the national building code either in whole or in part. There are some municipalities where there is no local bylaw or building code, in

which case we use the national building code. As far as the government's policy is concerned, on whether or not this should be adopted throughout the province, that is not within the direct jurisdiction of this department.

If the government decided in its wisdom that we should adopt by legislation the national building code in Ontario and told us to enforce it, we would, but at the present time that is not the case. The municipalities have authority through their legislation, administered by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, to set up their own building code, and those that have, we adhere to.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, there is a vote in the House. Will someone move we adjourn until the vote is over and come back?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Is there anything else on item 2?

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes, I want to go into this further with the minister, if I may.

Mr. Chairman: We will adjourn then until the vote is over.

The committee reconvened at 9 o'clock, p.m.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. MacKenzie.

Mr. MacKenzie: I was asking the minister about the uniform building standards and trying to get some assessment of what his thoughts were on it and the thoughts of his department. I gather from what he has said that he thinks maybe it would be a good idea if somebody said go ahead with it. I do not get any indication from the minister that he is prepared to give any leadership in this direction. In this respect I wonder whether the minister realizes how much at variance he is with one of his colleagues in the cabinet?

I wonder if I can, Mr. Chairman, quote a bit from a statement by the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. McKeough). This was a statement made on January 9, 1970, when he produced the report of the committee on uniform building standards for Ontario. In this report he says:

The consensus attained by the committee was that the province should have uniform building standards. If there is any disagreement it is not whether but how to achieve uniformity.

Then a little later on, quoting again:

Realizing the need for resolution of all supportable opinions, the committee has

recommended a period of transition from the current system of individual and different building bylaw standards to a fully operational system of uniform standards for building construction. During the interim period, necessary standards not now in the code will be prepared together with other required changes. While this is being done it is the conclusion of the committee that the 1970 version of the national building code should be put in force throughout the province by January, 1971.

This is a committee made up of experts in the building business throughout the province. A little later on, Mr. Chairman, the then Minister of Municipal Affairs says:

Without positive action the benefits of uniform building standards may never be realized. Because they do not seem fully appreciated, I would like to outline the major benefits of a system of uniform building standards.

I will not go through all those, they are too real for anyone to not understand without recording them again.

Later on the minister in his statement said:

Imagine coupling a system of uniform building standards with modular co-ordination, a metric system of measurement and with them mountable on portable buildings. These are possibilities we cannot ignore for us all. The dynamic growth of this province is going to continue. The goal of uniform building standards is a prerequisite of the full and unimpeded development of our technological capability to satisfy the shelter needs of industry, commerce and, most importantly, the families of Ontario.

End of quotation, a little later on some more:

The report also visualizes a much more responsible and cohesive role for the province in the administration of a uniform code. While the committee on uniform building standards recommends that The Department of Municipal Affairs assumes the provincial responsibility, it is my belief that the government should give careful examination to every possible alternative.

Mr. Chairman, in the light of such a statement by the then Minister of Municipal Affairs I am at a loss to understand the minister of this department not being aware of these words and not being prepared to move in and give leadership to this, if it means to the Province of Ontario what the then Minister of Municipal Affairs said. I am wondering if

the Minister of Public Works would not be prepared to move just a little bit in this direction?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I think I made it clear a while ago that I am in complete accord with what the report said and what the minister said. But I did say that at the present time government policy is that this is done—the legislation which permits building codes is administered by the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Bales). I do not think that hon. member suggests I should act—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Is that the former Minister of Labour?

Hon. Mr. Auld: —unilaterally and decide to bring forward legislation which would impose a uniform building code of something of that nature throughout the province.

Mr. MacKenzie: I do not see why not.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is not the responsibility of this department.

Mr. MacKenzie: This is the point I make, Mr. Minister. I do not think you are using the department to give leadership to building construction in this province and I think you should be. The Minister of Municipal Affairs says that it should be moving ahead and that by January, 1971, it should be in force and and yet you have nothing in force.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Then I would suggest you ask the Minister of Municipal Affairs how he is getting along with it.

Mr. MacKenzie: He is not the Minister of Municipal Affairs any more.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But there is a Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes, but the minister in his policy statement says, "We believe that maybe we should be the ones, but other possibilities should be explored."

The only point I make, Mr. Chairman, is that I do not think this minister is giving leadership to building construction in the Province of Ontario and I think he should.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Yes, I wanted to ask the minister, do you not follow a given set of standards in your own construction, for uniformity?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I mentioned just before we went up for the vote that if we are building a building in Toronto we adhere to the bylaws and building code of Toronto.

Mr. B. Newman: That is not it. You would still be adhering to bylaws and so forth of the municipality, because generally your standards are higher than they are in a municipality. I am talking about uniformity in some of these standards, so that no matter whether you go to Toronto, Windsor, Hamilton, Ottawa—and you name the centre—that your construction in there would follow set, given, standards which would be at least as good as the minimum, and maybe better than most, building standards in municipalities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Do not misunderstand me. I said that, generally speaking, most major municipalities in this province have adopted either all or part of the national building code. Some have added further requirements. For instance, just one thing that I do happen to know is that in the city of Ottawa, because of being in an earthquake zone or something, they have considerably higher standards than some other place of equivalent size as far as structure is concerned.

In the absence of any local building code—which, as I say, are generally based on the national building code in whole or in part—if there are no requirements we use the national building code, and in some cases because we might do things of our own judgment which are not required by that, or we might build it to a slightly higher standard.

Mr. B. Newman: I still think that there should be some minimum standard set by the department for departmental construction.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I say, this we do.

Mr. B. Newman: You immediately say, but when we go in here and we go in there, then we follow this and we follow that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You would not expect us to go into a municipality and not adhere to its building bylaws.

Mr. B. Newman: I would expect you to surpass its building standards. I would expect you to at least set the example for the whole industry. I would hope you would show enough leadership in there to do that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have never heard any complaint about the standard of buildings which the province constructs. I have heard

complaints that perhaps we build to too high a standard in certain circumstances.

Mr. B. Newman: I do not know about that. I would say you may have been a little too extravagant in some of the fittings, possibly, but not in the general building standard.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2 carried?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, backing up my colleague from Ottawa in regard to the building code: the reason why the whole economy in my opinion is bogged down is the lack of a single building code across this nation. We could have one building code if we would put maybe varying factors of climatic soil conditions to varying factors. But one building code is needed and there should be leadership. You are the biggest one of the largest spenders of moneys in this province. You are asking on this vote for \$54 million. It would seem to me that it would be most important that you would know where you are going insofar as this very important thing—a standard building code to get this nation moving—is concerned.

But somewhere along the line, as a businessman it would seem to me, Mr. Minister, no one knows what the hell is going on anyway. We have had ministers changing seats across this whole province and no one can tell me that you know what building is going on. Because you would not physically have any knowledge of what the construction programme is.

So in effect, then, I would suggest that the civil service, your senior men, are the fellows who make the decisions and you have nothing whatsoever to say about it. That is what bothers me in this whole bill; the civil service are continuing merrily on their way and here you are asking for \$54 million—a jump in two years of \$17 million—in this one segment here.

This idea of us sitting here trying to find some sense in these estimates is ridiculous. You have changed this whole bit now; instead of travelling expenses you call it transportation and communication. You are trying to hide the millions of dollars being spent in this government by travelling expenses, partying and so on—the whole piece. You now call it travelling and communication. What a laugh that is.

I think that you owe it to us to tell us where you stand on the backing up of this request here, that necessary legislation be introduced to provide for the adoption of the above proposed codes by January, 1971.

And you have said to my colleague here, "Ask the Minister of Municipal Affairs." That is not our job, it is your job to do that because you are the stem winder in the whole building deal here. So do not pass the buck to him, Mr. Minister, and say he should ask the Minister of Municipal Affairs. You should have some firm policy on it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is because we do not administer the legislation under which building codes are set up.

Mr. Sargent: You are spending \$54 million on this vote under the framework of a building code that we do not have.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is one of the factors that affects every building that we build, of course, and there are certain others that are affected by The Department of Labour.

Mr. Sargent: My colleague is a very knowledgeable engineer and he knows what he is talking about a hell of a lot more than I do, and I think more than you do, too, insofar as that particular field is concerned, so why do you not listen to him?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not disagreeing. I am simply saying that there is nothing that I can tell you as Minister of Public Works because I do not administer the legislation. I would say that what has been said here is quite cogent and might better have been said in a budget speech where the government hears it.

But on the matter of transportation and communications—if you look in the back of the estimates you will see the explanatory notes on the standard accounts classification, that is on page 346, which gives the breakdown of the various items in the votes, the kind of things that are included. As I recall it was at the request of the public accounts committee that additional classifications and regrouping were made in the estimates this year to give more information about this.

Mr. Sargent: In this vote you are asking for \$52 million—\$54 million. How do you justify an increase of say 33½ per cent in this particular vote, when across the whole bit you are having a holdback on wages, on five per cent, to civil service? How do you justify shooting next to \$17 million in this vote?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Earlier today, when you were not present, this was discussed at some length and there was some criticism that we were not doing enough construction to stimulate the economy. I explained that in January

the Treasury Board gave authority for Public Works to undertake projects which were in the stage of drawings, that they could be called, to the tune of about \$4 million, and that in the estimates this year there was an additional increase of \$4 million. So that we can go ahead with projects which are ready for construction.

Mr. Sargent: Where committed for, though? You are following through on the projects you are committed for.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I am talking about new projects. Some of this, of course, is carried over, because in major construction it may be three, perhaps four fiscal years in some projects—there would be money in the estimate for the same project over several years before it is complete. This was new work that was authorized, for which we had plans, we were ready to proceed.

Mr. Sargent: I doubt very much if the type of building that you do does much for the average working man. The people that are being looked after are the large architectural firms and the large corporations, construction-wise, mostly automation. There is not much labour generated through these programmes here.

While I am finishing up here, under this vote how do you justify the spending of X thousands of dollars—probably \$100,000—on that lounge down there, when it is not serving the function it was built for?

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Oh, come now.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): We used—

Mr. Sargent: I am not asking you, I am asking the minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As far as I know it is serving the function for which it was designed, which is a members' lounge.

Mr. Sargent: I suggest that you are talking with your tongue in your cheek there. Because you and I would be one of the better users of the place. You are not kidding a soul. Why does the government not activate—you have it stocked now with booze and liquor, you have attendants there to use them—now what is going on?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not say. I am ashamed to say I have not been down there since it was opened.

Mr. Sargent: You have not, and we spent \$100,000 and you have not even seen it yet.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not sure that it is \$100,000. As I recall, the total renovations for the whole structure, including air conditioning and a great many structural changes, was about \$770,000. I do not think that \$100,000 went into the lounge which, as I recall, you were quoted in a paper as saying was a pretty jazzy night club.

Mr. Sargent: A very posh one. I know a bit about that business. I think it is pretty posh. So what are we going to do down there?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is a members' lounge.

Mr. Sargent: It is a members' lounge. What is this stuff in the fridge and lockers for; the booze and the beer—what is that for?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I assume for banquet purposes for those persons who want it.

An hon. member: It is for when you get a licence.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Minister, you are making a joke of the thing. I will not take that. You are trying to fool me. You are trying—

Mr. Jessiman: Fool you?

Mr. Sargent: —to say that is down there for—what? For banquet purposes?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I assume. I am not aware that the place is stocked with booze.

Mr. Sargent: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not aware that the place is stocked with booze.

Mr. Sargent: I would be interested in who would put the stuff in there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Okay, tonight let us go down and take a look.

Mr. Sargent: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Let us go down and take a look after the committee rises.

An hon. member: Let us all take him down.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Peacock.

Mr. Sargent: But who would have the authority to stock that if you did not?

Mr. J. R. Smith: Just like Owen Sound, Eddie. Just like Owen Sound.

Mr. Sargent: We are law-abiding citizens there. We do not have—

Mr. Peacock: A question—

Mr. Sargent: Just a minute there, Mr. Minister, I am not through. The minister here is making a big laugh about this thing, but the fact is we have the lockers, the fridge is down there stocked with intoxicating liquor—

An hon. member: Fermented spirits!

Mr. Sargent: —fermented spirits. We have attendants down there, it has all the accoutrements—that is a good word—all the niceties of a very posh cocktail lounge, and the minister says he does not know how the liquor got down there. Now that is the statement you made. You do not know how it got down there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I did not say that, I said I was not aware there was any, but if there was any, no doubt, it was there for some banquet purpose.

Mr. Sargent: The attendants down there do not think so. They are waiting for someone to give them the green light.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is what I say. Let us go down and take a look.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Jessiman, do you want to speak?

Mr. Sargent: So you are springing to the attack and you never had a look. So you removed all your stuff.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could get the details on the acquisition of the properties involved in the Fifty Point Park project.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have passed that item but I can get them for you. I do not think that we would have that detail with us tonight, but I can get it for you and send it along to you.

Mr. Gisborn: Oh, is it correct that we are passed that and I am out of order? May I request that you send me the details, the purchasers and the price. I take it is correct that your department acquires it for the department once they settle on it. I would appreciate the details on that.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 2 carry?

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): I think I am on the right item. Would the minister be

willing to design and construct temporary facilities on the Mercer Reformatory land this summer in conjunction with the city of Toronto and various organizations that are being funded by the federal government in order to provide a tent city for the 150,000 students that are expected to travel through Toronto this coming summer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The question of any kind of construction which we do comes from an operating department. If the government, through some other department, asks that we construct this, we will do it.

Mr. Shulman: Are you not able to take initiative in anything whatsoever?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not in the building.

Mr. Shulman: Then which department can?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The only structures that we can build are those for our own purpose.

Mr. Shulman: This appears to be an extraordinary item. Which department could have such authority?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I really could not say. It would depend on what legislative authority it had to undertake this kind of a project.

Mr. Shulman: Let me take this one step further. You are responsible for the land, though; is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Shulman: Would you be willing, then, on your authority, with no expenditure whatsoever, to lend the land from the period of June 1 to August 31, if the funding can be arranged entirely through the federal government?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would assume that a government would approach this government, and it would be referred to us and we would negotiate it.

Mr. Shulman: It is not a government approaching this government. The various youth organizations have got together and they went to the federal government, which said, yes they were very enthusiastic about the project. Yes, they are reasonably certain they will fund it if they can get a site. Today, I went with them to city council, to the committee, and at that time the committee was going to ask for High Park, but it did not feel the area of High Park was suitable and it was agreed by all there that a suitable place would be the land on which the Mercer

Reformatory stood. At that time, I was requested to come here to ask if you, without any expenditure on the part of the provincial government, would lend the land for this period of time so that there will be somewhere for these people to go.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would seem to me that if the city was involved that they would approach us and, then, we would be delighted to talk to them.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, what difference does it make who approaches you? I am approaching you. I was asked by the city committee if I would approach the provincial government and ask the provincial government as a representative.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, if you could—

Mr. Shulman: May I finish?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Shulman: It is not going to cost the province anything. Can you take the responsibility without various governments approaching you to lend this land if—and I put the “if” in—if they arrange the proper funding through the federal government, because if you will do this there will be somewhere for these people to sleep this summer. We do not have much time. This is the middle of May and they are going to begin arriving June 1.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you were to write me a letter and hand it to me tomorrow, and I saw exactly what was involved and who the organizations were, then I could give you an answer.

Mr. Shulman: If I give you the letter tomorrow morning, when do I get an answer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Very shortly.

Mr. Shulman: June 2.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I cannot give you an answer because I do not know what is involved.

Mr. Shulman: I have explained exactly what is involved.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I learned not to give fast answers.

Mr. Shulman: Well, this is a straight, non-political request, believe it or not.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I realize it is a non-political request, but I would still like to know what would be involved.

Mr. Shulman: There would be no financial expenditure involved. It is purely and simply a matter of having some land somewhere where this tent city can be put up.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This may be ideal—I do not know—but I would not give you an answer tonight, because I do not know what is involved.

Mr. Shulman: All right. Well, if I let you have a letter tomorrow morning, will you try to get an answer within the week?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Sure.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): If I had a million, I would do it myself.

Mr. Shulman: I would do it if I owned the Mercer Reformatory. I would do it myself.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Ottawa Centre.

Mr. MacKenzie: The minister has indicated that the department is administering the contract for Ontario Place, and I gather there are quite a number of buildings where the money to build the building is carried in other estimates, not in Public Works estimates.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it is the exception rather than the rule. The funds for the majority of buildings that are required for other departments are in this vote, with the exception, as I said this afternoon, of some Highways salt sheds, a few simple Lands and Forests structures in parks and so on.

Mr. MacKenzie: But Ontario Place—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Ontario Place, as it happens, is in the estimates of the Minister of Trade and Development.

Mr. MacKenzie: The first question I have then is with regard to the amount the department actually administers each year in the way of contracts for construction. We know that last year it was the amount shown in the estimates, plus Ontario Place—plus what else? How much do you actually administer in the way of construction? It is something greater than you show in these estimates.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It could be. It could be exactly the amount. It would depend on what

special projects other departments had for which they had the funds.

Mr. MacKenzie: But this is the question, Mr. Minister. What is the amount for last year and what would be the amount for this coming year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We could not give you this information tonight. I can endeavour to get it for you, but it would mean going through all the other departmental estimates and finding out, for instance, what Highways have been involved in some of their minor projects, and Lands and Forests and so on.

Mr. MacKenzie: Ontario Place was \$23 million, so we know it was at least \$68 million that you administered last year and something greater than that probably. For this year, do you envision anything in excess of that? You have \$54 million called for here; is it going to be closer to \$100 million that your department will administer in the course of the year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would not think so. I would think the major expenditure on Ontario Place has been made. The only one that we know of—and it might be possible to find out here—

Mr. MacKenzie: I am talking about the economic point and this sort of thing.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would appear that Ontario Place, to finish up, would be \$3.5 million.

Mr. MacKenzie: Three and a half million dollars.

Hon. Mr. Auld: According to what I read in the Trade and Development estimates. That is the only other thing that I am aware of that we would be administering, at this point in time.

Mr. Chairman: Is there anything else? The hon. member for Hamilton East.

Mr. Gisborn: Could I ask the minister if this department has a requisition in for the construction of a new juvenile detention centre in Hamilton?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am sorry, I did not hear the first part of that question.

Mr. Gisborn: Has the department a requisition in from the Attorney General's department for the construction of a new juvenile detention centre in Hamilton?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think so. It is not in the blue book, is it?

Mr. Gisborn: I have not had a chance to look at it. I wondered if it is in order to ask if we—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We may have a request, but the procedure is that departments indicate to us things they hope to do sometime. We do not do any actual work on them until the Treasury Board has given permission for the first stage, which is the preparation of working drawings. So far that has not taken place.

Mr. Gisborn: I was just recalling raising the question with the Attorney General's department in regard to the present detention centre in Hamilton that was declared fairly obsolete and hazardous by—

Mr. Jessiman: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is straying away again.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think we are still talking about it.

Mr. Sargent: Did we wake the hon. minister up?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, not at all. I have been waiting.

Mr. Gisborn: I was assured that this was going to take place and I noticed criticism by the latest grand jury's report setting out the same kind of criticism of the juvenile detention centre. I was under the impression that he had initiated during last year's estimates renovations to comply with the reports of parks department.

Mr. Chairman: If it is the wish of the members of the committee, until we are notified by the whips that they are going to call the vote we will keep on with the committee.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am sorry. I thought the member was talking about a new structure.

Mr. Gisborn: On the question of the Attorney General's department, it was indicated that they were going to renovate to take care of the immediate problems, but they had in mind acquiring property and building a new detention centre.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In this general field I have been informed that there is a request from The Department of Justice to do something there. Our basic problem is, as we all will recall, when we took over the administration

of justice from the municipalities there were a great many courthouses and lockups and registry offices and all of these types of structures which were in need of improvement. It has really been a matter of priority, and the funds that we have available for this, in doing the ones which were in the greatest need, or where the greatest problem was, with the exception of one or two places where we have really done very little because we are in the process of building entirely new facilities.

Mr. Gisborn: Would it be fair to ask your officials if they did carry out renovation activities at the Leaside Detention Centre in Hamilton since the last set of estimates?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I must pursue it with the Attorney General's department.

Mr. Chairman: The member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: I was not here this afternoon. Has anyone discussed the parking problem at Ontario Place?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Somebody asked if we had designed the facilities. I replied: "No."

Mr. Shulman: Who designed the facilities?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The architects that were appointed by us to work with The Department of Trade and Development.

Mr. Chairman: We discussed this in the previous vote.

Mr. Shulman: Has this been gone into in detail? I mean, did we determine who those people were and why they bungled it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There were some questions about the actual planning of Ontario Place and I pointed out that since the funds were in the vote of the Minister of Trade and Development, he would be the one who would be aware of how the planning was done and what the priorities were. We were not involved in that, other than, as I say, to recommend the architect and then to take over the project management group which got into financial difficulties to get the place completed.

Mr. Shulman: The minister is now responsible, is that what he means?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are responsible to see that the construction is completed as presently planned.

Mr. Shulman: In view of the complaints that have been made by the police, is there

anything the minister can do at this point to clean this up?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If the operating department, The Department of Trade and Development, asked us to do something and they have the funds available, we will do it.

Mr. Shulman: They have not asked yet?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We would see that it was done.

Mr. Shulman: They have not asked as yet?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Chairman: Does Mr. MacKenzie wish to ask a question?

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes! I wanted to get into the business of building information centres, if the minister wants to take the time before the—

Mr. Chairman: Oh! We might be here for a long time. There is nearly half an hour to go yet.

Mr. MacKenzie: I mentioned before, Mr. Chairman, that building information centres are—

Mr. Chairman: Number 2? No. Design and Construction. Go ahead.

Mr. MacKenzie: —quite prominent in other centres and I have quite a bit of information on this here.

Hon. Mr. Auld: On information centres?

Mr. MacKenzie: On building construction information centres—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, yes.

Mr. MacKenzie: —which I asked the minister last year, the year before, to get into it. Last year I was shocked when the minister replied that I was always looking for “pie in the sky.” I thought I would get on the record this year if I could, Mr. Chairman, a little bit of information about building construction information centres and hopefully that the minister would recognize what is going on in other centres and possibly do something about it.

I wonder if I might just quote from this news release, “Progress Report on the Development of an Information System for the Canadian Construction Industry.” In here they give the reasons why such a centre is necessary. Let me quote:

The highlights of findings: The results of an independent survey undertaken on behalf of the department indicate that the Canadian construction industry has a large and costly information system of uncertain quality and efficiency. Here are some of the highlights of the situation:

Twenty to 30 million pages of product literature are disseminated annually, a flood growing at eight per cent per year. Sixty-five per cent of this is discarded either on receipt or after first reading. Users demand more facts and less advertising. Suppliers want their information beamed more directly to users with less broadcasting waste. Four-hundred million pages of literature on products and building technology stored on users' premises throughout Canada.

Some 20 per cent of the data more than three years old; 35 per cent from one to three years. Eighty thousand queries per day flowing from users to all information sources. Product dissemination, storage and retrieval of information is costing the construction industry in excess of \$300 million per year, approximately three per cent of the total annual value of all construction work.

Well, on that basis, considering Ontario's position, which is probably half, it is costing us \$150 million per year in Ontario for the information required by building construction. Then, to give you a bit more background, Mr. Chairman, this is a news release by The Department of Industry of Canada and I quote. It is under the heading of “Origin of Building Centres.”

The oldest building centre in Europe is the London Building Centre which was founded in 1931. It has served as an example to many of the subsequent centres, most of which came into being after World War II. The need for accelerated growth in building the variety of building products and of building systems brought about a demand for building information centres, particularly in western Europe. The larger countries have such centres in more than one city. For example, there are six building centres in the UK, six in France, nine in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Today, many of the developing countries are announcing plans for their own building centres. Building centres originated in a variety of ways. Number one, on the initiative of individuals—an example was in Rotterdam and in Stuttgart; number two,

through the action of local architectural associations—examples are the French centres, Nottingham and Vancouver; three, through the co-operation of associations and professional groups—examples are in Copenhagen and the National Housing Centre in Washington; four and last was through government action—example is the Exco Building Centre in Madrid.

Mr. Chairman, that is some of what is happening in the world around us with regard to making information on construction available to the industry so that we can get better value for our dollar and stop wasting so much, as you must realize from the first location. I would like to know whether the minister of this department will give some thought to providing some leadership in this area?

Hon. Mr. Auld: What does the member mean? Leadership or money?

Mr. MacKenzie: Both. You cannot give one without the other, I do not think.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I must admit that this is a subject about which I know practically nothing.

Mr. MacKenzie: I do not dispute that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I gather, at least I infer, that the centres that the member spoke about in that quotation, with the exception of the Japanese and the Spanish, are all supported financially by the industry or by a combination of the construction industry and architects and so forth?

Mr. MacKenzie: It did not say that. It said the founding was by them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, as I say, I inferred this from the fact that two of them were said to be established by government but the other ones probably were not.

But the member mentioned something—if I could ask him a question—about a national building centre. Has it been organized?

Mr. MacKenzie: It is under study. This is a quotation of a progress report on it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Who is studying it? Is it the government?

Mr. MacKenzie: The Department of Industry. You probably heard of the BEAM programme which is the initials, the abbreviation for the—I forget the full title.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would assume then—correct me if I am wrong—this is an arrangement where the information is filed, or at least stored by computer, something like that?

Mr. MacKenzie: That would be the case today, but it has not been previously because they did not have computers.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Would there be a requirement in the country for more than one of these?

Mr. MacKenzie: Well, the point I make is that Ontario is in the best place because most of your construction in Canada is going on right here.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But if it is going to cost some money, and the feds are going to do it, I would say we would be delighted.

Mr. MacKenzie: The point I make, Mr. Chairman, is that I think this minister should be giving some leadership in this direction too. I complained about no leadership in uniform building standards and I complained about no leadership in programming the work for economic reasons.

I complain because the minister will not move and give some leadership in a research centre when he knows—from the fact that we are spending about \$150 million a year on wasted time for information when it could be readily available in greater detail, and when you read what the then Minister of Municipal Affairs said with regard to uniform building standards in those other areas—the time has got to come when you are going to give leadership, or this department is going to have to.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2 carried?

Mr. Shulman: No.

Mr. Chairman: Okay. Do you have something on design and construction?

Mr. Shulman: Yes. In these estimates three years ago, under this particular item, I brought up the problem of fire escapes at Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital, and the minister at that time said it was not necessary to put in these fire escapes and spend \$64,000 because the area that this went to was not used anyway. I see in the estimates this year you have put in \$64,000 to put in the fire escapes. I was just curious about what brought about the change of heart.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are they the same fire escapes? I am afraid I could not give you the detail. That is in the blue book, is it not?

Mr. Shulman: Page 4. You will recall in 1965 one of your inspectors recommended the escapes and in 1968 I was complaining that nothing had been done and I was told it was not necessary.

Hon. Mr. Auld: All I can say, Mr. Chairman, is I will get the information and I will see what we can find out about the previous suggestion.

Mr. Shulman: It is nice to see one's suggestion followed, even belatedly.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Sargent.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Reading this public works programme, capital works programme, 1971-1972, it embraces work completed, under construction, ready for construction, approved for working drawings, approved for preliminary plans. Would the minister advise me if in the Treasury Board meetings does the word ever come down that the planners say to you I want you to lop off—

Mr. Chairman: I think you are off—what has this got to do with this section?

Mr. Sargent: You listen and I will tell you.

Mr. Chairman: You are just a little bit off there.

Mr. Sargent: No, I am talking about this expenditure, Mr. Chairman. Does the Prime Minister (Mr. Davis) ever say to the Minister of Public Works "I want you to go over your programme. I want you to lop off 15 per cent to 20 per cent of your project."

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think it is my secret that departments prepare budgets. Starting in August or September of the year before the budget year. In fact, the Treasurer, it seems to me, announced earlier this year that all departments have been given certain guidelines and had to reduce a lot of the proposed expenditure.

Mr. Sargent: You reduced it by \$17 million then?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It does not work quite that way with us because we deal with two things: The departmental priorities—The Department of Health may want 10 hospitals—

Mr. Sargent: The departmental priorities do not mean a thing unless you say so. You are the minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If the hon. member would let me finish, I will explain.

They sort out their own priorities and that comes to the Treasury Board, to the government. The government decides how much can be spent for capital construction and that is what we put in here. We do not decide.

Mr. Sargent: That is the point I am trying to make. Who does decide?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Decide? The government itself decides the total budget; and the total budget, a substantial part of it, as you can see, is capital construction.

Mr. Sargent: All right. Now I make this observation. I went through this book very quickly and I would say that 70 per cent of the spending in this budget is in the "golden horseshoe" here. The majority of them—and I say this kindly—the majority of the allotment of projects is in ridings where there are Tory members. That is natural—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Just a moment now, fellows. It would be nice to see an outside riding get a crumb once in a while. There is nothing here for Owen Sound or Grey-Bruce, not one five-cent piece in this whole document here.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Just a minute, I am talking, Mr. Chairman. For the record, I want to say that this is a scandalous thing. It is a political document that—

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): You are not in politics?

Mr. Sargent: Yes, that is the game, but there should be some equity along the line, too.

Mr. Chairman: Let us get back to design and construction. The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: There are estimates for construction to the extent of \$52 million.

Mr. Chairman: Stick right on it.

Mr. Sargent: And even the ones in the hopper—you talk about approval for working drawings, that is projected, looking after. On

one page here we have one, two, three, four, five six seven projects and five of them are in the Toronto area. On the next page there are five and they are all in the Toronto area.

The whole brief here is geared to—here is one; out of nine projects seven are in the Toronto area, and one in Hamilton.

Mr. Jessiman: All in St. George and High Park.

Mr. Sargent: The next one here—approved for sketch plans; eight—and six are in the Toronto area.

Mr. Henderson: Let us get back to design and construction.

Mr. Sargent: On this next page—I do not mind; you should be interested in this. Eight projects here and seven are in the Toronto area. On the next one here—14 projects and seven are in the Toronto area. But the thing is, for the record, that we do have to remember that we have a large province here, about eight million people, and the majority of the spending is done in this market, Mr. Chairman.

A lot of the little people in this province, as you are going to find out shortly, are fed up with it. For the record I want to say that this is a completely political document; that you are putting your building where your members are and to hell with the rest of us. That is for the record.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, the member for High Park brought up a matter a moment ago about the fire escapes in the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital. It is drawn to my attention that this item is under the work-completed end of things, so that some fire escapes have been built there. I will endeavour to find out whether they are the ones the hon. member suggested.

Mr. Shulman: What I am curious about is why they suddenly developed a need, when before they were not using those third floors so they did not need the fire escapes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not know but at a guess, if that is what was said and I assume that was correct, they must now be using the third floor.

Mr. Shulman: I would like to ask the minister about something I am wondering about. What is an air tempering system?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is not quite air conditioning. Perhaps Mr. Creba can explain; it

is really chilling the air rather than—would you like to explain the technicalities?

Mr. D. G. Creba (Operations Division): An air-tempering system does not necessarily provide complete change of air by mechanical means. It means there is a cooling source but the air is not completely exhausted and re-filtered and put in with fresh air all the time.

Mr. Shulman: Is the Don Jail now air conditioned for all practical purposes? I see you spent \$402,000 in air tempering the Don Jail. Is this in the cell areas?

Mr. Creba: Yes.

Mr. Shulman: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2 carried?

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I notice that there is now a national construction industry development foundation incorporated and based in Ottawa for the express purpose of doing some research on building construction to try to find better ways and cheaper ways to undertake construction of buildings. This, of course, ties in pretty closely with the uniform building standards.

I notice that the federal government—this group is made up, I might say, of representatives from the Canadian Construction Association, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, the association of Consulting Engineers of Canada, the Specification Writers Association of Canada and the Housing and Urban Development Association of Canada.

A 24-member board of directors has drawn representations from many different groups. I notice the federal government is prepared already to have donated \$50,000 to help this foundation to get under way through research on building construction which, in Canada, is a \$14 billion industry. In Ontario, it is probably at least a third of that. I am wondering whether this minister would consider making some kind of similar donation to this group to get building construction research under way.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am going to look into both this and the other matter that you were speaking about. I would not make any commitments. Did you say that a provincial government had given a grant or is this—

Mr. MacKenzie: No, the federal government. It is a \$50,000 grant.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Does it indicate—was that CHMC by any chance? Was that grant given by CHMC?

Mr. MacKenzie: No, the minister was the hon. Mr. Pepin who, I think, is the Industry Minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Trade, industry and something else. It seems to me, would not CHMC come under—no, that is under housing now. I will look into this.

Mr. MacKenzie: You do not have the equivalent of Trade and Industry in the provincial setup except The Department of Trade and Development, but that is not quite the same sort of a thing.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister: We do not carry our buildings as an asset on our books, but I imagine in your complete overall coverage you have maybe hundreds of millions of dollars of plant assets under your control.

In the United States there is considerable flak on now about electronic listening devices in government buildings. I would like to ask the minister, to his knowledge, are there, in any of the operations—the jails or in your whole operation—do you know if there are any electronic listening devices? Is there any monitoring of calls?

Now before you answer, monitoring of calls is a pretty common practice in the United States in government. There are hundreds of thousands of cases of this in government there. It would seem odd that here we have eight million people and you say that we do not have that. I would like to know if you know of any of those practices going on now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: To my knowledge there would be no monitoring or electronic snoopers around government buildings. Now I could not tell you about the new detention centres. Do they use any of these? No.

Mr. Sargent: If I may ask your department head again. There are no listening devices in the Don Jail?

Mr. Creba: I cannot answer that because it is operated by Correctional Services. It is not part of anything that they have asked us to put in.

Mr. Sargent: So that would be under their command if they wanted to install them.

Have you ever had the offices in Queen's Park—the government offices, or the whole complex—have you ever had them swept or debugged to see if there is bugging going on?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would not think so. On the other hand it is reasonable to assume, since we are in charge of the Centrex telephone operation on the switchboard system, that our own people who are doing maintenance would no doubt see anything like that, if it was obvious.

I am informed that the OPP did a check several years ago.

Mr. Sargent: The fact is that if you do not do it I would suggest that you are the slackest outfit in the whole world, because every big business corporation has to watch for bugging and they have them swept periodically. You say, at this point, to your knowledge the Ontario government has never had their offices swept or debugged?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I am informed that about three years ago the OPP, who I assume have some experts in this field, did check around. Whether they are continuing to do that, I do not know, but I shall find out.

Mr. Chairman: The member for High Park. We are due in the House at 10 o'clock for a vote.

Mr. Shulman: This will take less than two minutes. The Attorney General today announced his \$14 million new complex for a Centre of Forensic Sciences, which we are to be very proud of. I am trying to understand the thinking which persuaded either you or he—I am curious as to which one—to put a liquor store in this complex?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In the first place, I believe that was the request of the Liquor Control Board who presently have a store in the building which we own on Grenville Street.

Mr. Shulman: Would the minister not agree with me that this is rather an inappropriate place to be putting a liquor store?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not know. I would think it is a convenient place for the people who operate in this area.

Mr. Shulman: Perhaps our minds are running in different directions. If you are spending \$14 million to set up what is to be a model forensic science centre for the world—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Maybe this will be a first.

Mr. Shulman: It will be a first, is right. Does the minister not think, if nothing else, it will create an odd impression in the minds of all of the hundreds of thousands of visitors who will be coming to visit this centre to find, on the ground floor, a liquor store?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not speculate. It may be a convenience for them. Maybe that is why the board wants to be there, if they are going to have that kind of traffic.

Mr. Shulman: I am quite sure that they will want to be there so they can sell as much liquor as they can, but as a government—

Hon. Mr. Auld: But there is some rental space available and—

Mr. Shulman: I think we should have that as a secondary thought, if that is our desire.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is not a primary thought. I can only assume that there is some ground floor commercial space and—

Mr. Shulman: But the only commercial thing that is going into this building is a liquor store. What I am trying to get at is who is responsible. Does the Public Works department make this decision? Are you, or was your predecessor, responsible?

Mr. Sargent: That is the biggest form of robbery in the country—the liquor store.

Mr. Shulman: It may be, and there may be places for liquor stores—

Mr. Sargent: They are legalized clip-joints!

Mr. Chairman: Order, order!

Mr. Henderson: Do you want one up there.

Mr. Shulman: Surely this is not the place for a liquor store?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the forensic sciences building is being put where it is because it was to be close to the Parliament buildings, and close to the university and that the board also wanted a store in that area and we put the two together.

Mr. Shulman: I can understand they would both like to be where there are a lot of people and close to the university, but I am asking the minister, does he not think that the choice was an inappropriate one?

What I am asking him is that since there is still time to change it, could he not, as the head of the department, find some place for a liquor store other than in the centre of what is supposed to be our newest and proudest building?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I cannot agree that it is inappropriate. I assume that we have undertaken to do this in conjunction with the Liquor Control Board and so I would assume that we would proceed.

Mr. Shulman: Does the minister think this appropriate?

Mr. Chairman: Item 2 of vote 1802.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Have you got much on? If you have, we will have to adjourn.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Temporarily.

An hon. member: If the vote is not over by 10:30 we will not be back.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is supposed to be on now.

The committee recessed and reconvened at 10:10 p.m.

Mr. Shulman: How many people in this particular branch, under design and construction, have quit in the last year because of unsatisfactory working conditions?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid that our personnel director is not here because we dealt with personnel in an earlier vote.

Mr. Chairman: It was item 2 of vote 1801.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I am just asking specifically in relation to this particular design and construction branch, where the \$54 million is involved. How many people quit because of unsatisfactory working conditions? If you have not broken it down I do not mind taking the total figure.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Very few.

Mr. Shulman: I think you will be surprised. They prepare a table every year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Here we are—resigned. The total in the department was five and I could not tell you—

Mr. Shulman: It is five because of unhappy working conditions.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The Deputy Minister tells me that there was one engineer in the design and construction branch who resigned and gave this reason.

Mr. Shulman: Did you happen to ask this engineer what it was specifically he was unhappy with?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not say, because I was not there and I did not.

Mr. Shulman: Well, let me pursue it a little further. If there were five in the department who resigned—and one in this particular branch—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, there were 234 separations in the department out of, at that time, about 2,100 employees.

Mr. Shulman: How does that compare with the year before?

Hon. Mr. Auld: —292 the year before, 211 the year before that, and that is everything from superannuation, disability, unauthorized absence, inefficient performance, insubordination, improper conduct, offence—well, these are classifications but there were not any in them.

Mr. Shulman: No, well the only people I am interested in are the ones that quit because of unsatisfactory working conditions, and if they are unsatisfactory in one specific area perhaps we should learn about it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, the only thing I would say is that out of a total staff of this size we have a pretty good record.

Mr. Shulman: Well! You had five people in a year in one department quit because of unsatisfactory working conditions. Other people might not think it is quite such a good record.

Hon. Mr. Auld: On the other hand, it is a matter of opinion. To an individual, unsatisfactory working conditions might be having to arrive at 8.00 in the morning instead of 8.30.

Mr. Shulman: That is why I ask, could you look up—if your man is not here—tonight or maybe tomorrow, what the specific problem is?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Since we are really out of order I will do so and I will let you know.

Mr. Shulman: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. MacKenzie.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I want to go over a little bit on the comparison between last year's approval capital works, and the proposed capital works for the ensuing year. I heard what the minister said before with regard to changes and only being able to do what other departments direct them to do, but I find it quite amazing to go through the blue book issue of last year and find a multitude of jobs approved for sketch plans, preliminary plans, and apparently in the past year even though they were approved for preliminary plans the preliminary plans have not been made since the same projects are carried again this year. I am wondering why you would show them as approved for preliminary plans and not actually do it, and then turn around and say that you are doing all that you can to help the unemployment situation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think I have indicated that we are doing something positive in increasing the amount of work which is actually going to construction. As far as working plans are concerned—

Mr. MacKenzie: But you mentioned all that before when you talked about the inflationary effects and how many dollars were incurred because of—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Many things could be approved for sketch plans and for a variety of reasons, a change in location, a change in what was decided to be put in the structure—in a hospital, for instance, sketch plans might be started, the sketch plans might get to a point where an estimate was made of the total cost and this was too much. A whole host of things can happen with the client department between approval for sketch plans and the sketch plans actually being completed. The department's priorities might change and they might drop the project.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister has really looked at and done a comparison and compared the numbers? At a rough guess—I have not taken a count myself; I have gone over each one and compared them—I would say that there may be 10 per cent of those shown in last year's blue book which are not shown again in this year's blue book. Another way of saying it is that there is 90 per cent repeated in this year's blue book, and I find this hard to comprehend.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think you will find if you look at it over the year—as long as I

have been around here when I have checked this, I have seen many changes. I will give you, here—if I can take the time, Mr. Chairman—a list of the projects that were in the 1970-1971 blue book and are not in this one.

Mr. MacKenzie: Are you talking under the tab of "approved preliminary plans"?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes. And here are the reasons, "Deleted at the request of the client department." That is one, two, three; the next one was carried out as a minor capital project, projects under \$100,000, which the department does without specific further Treasury approval. "Deleted at the request of the client department." "Deleted at the request of the client department." "Deleted at the request of the client department." Of those three, one was air conditioning in the Althouse College; this was transferred to University Affairs. The next one was a teacher's college, transferred to University Affairs, and the next one was transferred to the University of Ottawa. The next one will be provided on a lease basis. "Deleted at the request of the client department." In that case, they said their present facilities were adequate.

Here is one, "Deleted since it was included in error. Deleted at the request of the client department. Included in phase I renovations." That was the tunnel extension in Orillia. "Deleted at the request of the client department." Again the same thing.

Here is one, "Will be provided on a lease basis." There are three more, "Provided on a lease basis. Deleted at the request of the client department. Carried out as a minor capital project." Those are the reasons for all the deletions.

Mr. MacKenzie: But that just worsens what I have just said, Mr. Chairman. My complaint is that your blue book for 1971-1972 carries very nearly the same projects as it did in 1970-1971, even though it is approved for plans. You are saying why these projects have not gone ahead and why some have been deleted. Then the question I can ask is, if you deleted some of these, why have you not gone ahead with the other ones that you showed in 1970-1971. Why do you read them in 1971-1972, in place of doing them?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you could give me a specific example, I could perhaps get the information for you.

Mr. MacKenzie: Now, Arkell, the agricultural—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Arkell?

Mr. MacKenzie: Arkell, the place is—it is for The Department of Agriculture and Food and the place is Arkell.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is Arkell?

Mr. MacKenzie: The place is Arkell, the agricultural research station, swine and fowling unit. That was approved for preliminary plans last year. It is carried again this year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The department—

Mr. Sargent: That would be the estimates.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the department has higher priorities—a project with higher priorities.

Mr. MacKenzie: But it is approved for the sketch plans. Why have you not drawn it for higher priority?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because after it was approved for sketch plans and after this book was printed, the department came to us and said, "We have got a higher priority."

Mr. MacKenzie: And are you saying the same about Guelph? You know, it is just about exactly the same wording. "The Western Ontario regional complex, new administration building on the site of Guelph campus. The master planning for this complex has been completed." Well, it is still approved for preliminary plans and that was exactly the same wording as the year before.

Kemptville College of Agricultural Technology, "Auditorium to seat 500 or 600 students." It is exactly the same wording as last year. What would be the reason for the one at Kemptville not going ahead?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would assume that here again, as far as The Department of Agriculture's total plans were concerned, there were higher priorities. So we did not proceed, with the expense we would have in engaging an architect to go ahead with that work, or doing it with our own staff.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member—

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I have not finished as yet. Is the minister saying about the whole Department of Agriculture and the whole programme of preliminary plans for last year that they have changed the priorities? If they have changed the priorities, what are they changed to, no buildings?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If they are not included there, there is nothing going ahead on them.

Mr. MacKenzie: Then you get into The Department of Correctional Services. The same thing applies, the wording, and you can go to city and town after town and the wording is the same. The question is the blue book is misleading. It is not telling us what is going on.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It has often been suggested that we should not put anything in the blue book other than the projects that were ready for construction or that we were actually going ahead with because there are so many changes.

Mr. MacKenzie: Do you not think, to make the blue book useful, that you can detail this in some way so that we can keep track of what is happening in the department? It may be that I am not working hard enough at it, but I find it very difficult to get a complete measure of what the department is doing and—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We can tell you at any—

An hon. member: How would you know?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We can tell you at any time what we are proceeding with, but we cannot foresee what the department will do in terms of its own priorities; changing its priorities; getting approval for sketch plans on one basis and then deciding that what it is they want to construct should be changed in concept. So we start over again.

Mr. MacKenzie: Do you not think the tab on the blue book should be changed to some extent? It says, "Approved for preliminary plans." It would be my concept that when something is approved to go ahead with it, you go ahead with it. Now, if you are not going ahead with it, if there are all these changes, then it is not—you know, the door is open to make the changes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not disagree with you. If I had my way, we would not have that section in the book.

Mr. Sargen: Why is it in there?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because it has been requested, and it has been in there for years because the members wanted it.

Mr. Sargent: Oh come on, you are the minister.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Are you through

Mr. MacKenzie: He is the minister. He is starting to unload on us here a bit and tell us what he is going to do with us because he says it is for the members and the members are telling him that it is misleading. Maybe you can just call it some other name—I do not think you should necessarily take it out—but call them projects that are being considered, or some such term.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is not a bad idea.

Mr. MacKenzie: I can go through the blue book and look at the other tabs the same way, Mr. Chairman, and I said last year and the year before that it is a wonderful approach to inform us of what you are doing.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is the purpose of the exercise.

Mr. MacKenzie: It is a wonderful approach. I just say that I think you should go a little further.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Kent.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, I notice in the Queen's Park complex that the government buildings are square in general or a shoe-box shape. I am not critical of it or making light of it, but is that the design that your department has decided on, that all government buildings will be of a square design where possible?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think so.

Mr. Spence: There is no definite design then for Ontario provincial government buildings?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think that it is fair to say our approach is that we attempt to build something that is reasonably attractive but is the most efficient and the most economical, and from my observations of other office buildings, while they are not all exactly the same, they have the same general form.

Mr. Spence: I was just wondering if you have decided, or The Department of Public Works in the past—I know you are new in this department—if this department has set a definite design for government buildings.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey-Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: Now, Mr. Chairman, regarding the point of my friend, the member for

Kent, the kindest way I can say this is that the minister has very little to say what goes on at all. A top Conservative who is building part of the Harbour City programme told me that the civil service here laughs at members of Parliament. They make a joke of cabinet ministers. They run their own show anyway.

Mr. Chairman: Is this—

Mr. Sargent: I am talking about \$52 million in this vote. He went on to say that it is just a joke this whole programme of ours. The civil servants run their own show and to hell with the cabinet ministers and the members of Parliament. They laugh at us and I guess these fellows are going to be laughing at me tonight because a taxpayer can maybe bitch a bit once in a while about what is going on but my concern is that in this vote you have \$52 million. Twenty-five small cities in Ontario would amount to that budget, and what burns me as a taxpayer is that we set up a purchasing department in this government and of the \$52 million, how much money is spent through the purchasing department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Of that?

Mr. Sargent: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say virtually none. If you want to take a look at that you will have to wait until the next vote.

Mr. Chairman: If you want to get at the purchasing—

Mr. Sargent: Just one second, I am talking about \$52 million.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That has nothing to do with purchasing.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I reserve the right to speak.

Mr. Chairman: I reserve the right to keep you in order.

Mr. Sargent: I will be in order. Do not worry about that. I am asking you how much of this \$52 million we are talking about in this vote is done through central purchasing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I suppose I could give you a figure because that work which is done with our own forces in maintenance, in minor construction and maintenance, some of it may well be expended through our own purchasing operation. But the majority of this work—

Mr. Sargent: I am talking about central purchasing.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —is done by contract. The contractor would be the one responsible for supplying the materials.

Mr. Sargent: Of all the contributing commodities that go into all these buildings that the government buys—2,000 desks, 5,000 chairs, 2,000 air conditioners, what have you—these are not bought through central purchasing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Of course. It is bought through—

Mr. Sargent: You say it is?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, now!

Mr. Sargent: It is bought through central purchasing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I want to be sure just what your question is.

Mr. Sargent: I do not know.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This includes all the construction.

Mr. Sargent: I do not know what you are trying to say.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am simply saying that our own central purchasing does not buy the supplies for a contractor who is building a building for us. Our own central purchasing would buy the furniture if we build a new building, as I said earlier today when you were not here.

Mr. Sargent: Now you say they do buy the furniture for these buildings—the head of purchasing does.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Let me finish.

Mr. Sargent: They do.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Would you let me finish? We do and we do not, if you want a straight answer.

Mr. Sargent: That is an answer I have heard lots of times.

Hon. Mr. Auld: When we build a building for a department we put in all the furniture, all the equipment. After they move in when they have to buy additional things or replacements they buy it out of their budget. If it is furniture, they buy it—

Mr. Sargent: They buy out of their budget?

Hon. Mr. Auld: —they buy out of their budget to standards set by our central supply and purchasing people.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Minister, would you tell me, did you spend \$100,000 last year through central purchasing, or did you spend \$1 million or \$2 million? I am talking about this vote, \$52 million. How much money has gone that you cannot replace?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you will wait until we come to the vote—

Mr. Sargent: I am not going to wait. I want to know. We are talking about it.

Mr. Chairman: No, no. We are going to wait until we deal with central purchasing in the next vote.

Mr. Sargent: I want to know how much money of the \$52 million was delegated through central purchasing, Mr. Chairman. That is a pretty straight question. It is a pretty basic question, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Technically all the tendering and stuff goes through central purchasing, so I suppose you can say that all this went through.

Mr. Sargent: Now we have a new one. You say that all the tendering was through central purchasing?

Mr. G. E. Smith moved the adjournment of the committee.

Mr. B. Newman: Will we meet tomorrow, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Eleven o'clock?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, after the question period; 11 o'clock tomorrow.

Motion agreed to.

The committee adjourned at 10:35 o'clock, p.m.

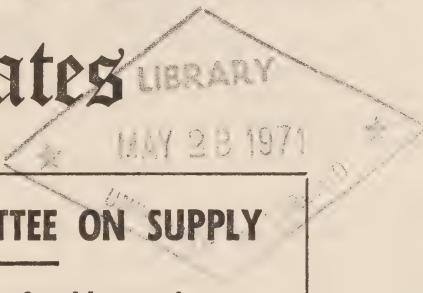
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Legislature of Ontario Debates



STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Public Works

Chairman: Mr. W. Hodgson

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Friday, May 14, 1971

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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1971



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1971

The committee met at 11.05 o'clock, a.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. W. Hodgson in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (concluded)

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, we left off last night at item 2, vote 1802. Carried?

On vote 1802.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): No, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Peacock.

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Chairman, as you know, yesterday I arrived at the committee—because of attendance in the House following the debate there—after the committee had considered the first item of vote 1802, the real estate section of that vote in which the department discussed—

Mr. Chairman: Discuss item 2. That is item 1, real estate, and we have already finished item 1. It has been passed and carried.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, I understand you were putting the question of vote 1802 just now, or were you putting it on item 2, design and construction?

Mr. Chairman: We are discussing and will be voting on item 2 of vote 1802.

Mr. Peacock: I see.

Mr. Chairman: The item on real estate has been discussed.

Mr. Peacock: I do not have anything on design and construction.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. MacKenzie then.

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Chairman, before you pass on, there were some questions raised last night the answers to which were not available at the time and the minister and some of his officials said they would be provided today.

Mr. Chairman: This was not the way I understood it.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Public Works): I gave them at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Peacock: In part, yes.

Mr. Chairman: The minister gave you your answer and I gave you the opportunity—which was out of order but I gave it to you—and you said, "I have one more question on real estate"; and we gave you the opportunity to ask the question.

Mr. Peacock: All right. Then on a point of order, Mr. Chairman, with respect, it is not out of order to raise a matter on a vote as long as that vote has not passed. I understand you are proceeding in sequence by items within the vote. What I would like to ask is that the record show the answers to the balance of the questions, the answers to which were not available in full last night at 8 o'clock. The minister was able to give the answers to the first part. I will leave that until the end of the vote, if I can have it before the vote passes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I think I should say the part of the question I was unable to answer was the part which asked what the previous owner had paid for the property which we had purchased. We do not have that information. It would have to be sought out at the registry office and this may take several days.

Mr. Peacock: Oh, I am sorry.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We will have to send somebody, I assume, to the registry office to find this out. We might have some information but I cannot by any means guarantee that.

Mr. Peacock: My recollection from last night was that Mr. Bentley stated that the prices of transactions for some of the other portions of land purchased on the escarpment were in hand and might be provided today.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have one, I am informed, and the rest will be available early next week.

Mr. Peacock: I see. Is the one the same as the one given last night for the Credit Forks?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Beaver Lookout.

Mr. Peacock: Beaver Lookout? Well that is all I am interested in, Mr. Chairman, on that matter.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. MacKenzie.

Mr. H. MacKenzie (Ottawa Centre): I have nothing more on this.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Has the minister had the opportunity to consider the letter which I gave him last night?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes. There is a draft reply going to the member and in essence what it says is that at the moment this property is being frozen—you may recall I answered a question in the House about this—until we find out if Ontario Housing wants to use it. On the other hand it is not likely that they will be using it this summer and we would be happy to deal with any responsible body who would undertake to ensure that the property is returned to us in proper condition, and that somebody else is responsible for any expenses involved, and that it would be cleared of anything after it has been used.

Mr. Shulman: Fine. Thank you very much.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But we would want to have firm details as to the responsible people.

Mr. Shulman: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2 carried?

Carried.

We will discuss item 3, management of buildings.

Mr. Peacock: Is there any possibility, Mr. Chairman, that The Department of Public Works could enhance the digestion of members of the Legislature in regard to the procession that we make along the gallery of paintings hung on the walls of the corridor entering upon the dining room for the members of the Legislature on the second floor? There are some rather unsavoury paintings on those walls. I understand that some members of the public service of Ontario carry on painting as a hobby and that some of these works are of very good artistic standards and merit. The replacement of what we view now with some of those paintings would be of no cost to the public treasury and would be of

some prestige to the artists in the public service painting them. It might be a bit refreshing.

I hesitate to detail for the record what is exposed to us in some of those paintings, but one of them is a severed head; St. George and the dragon rampant!

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would be delighted to look into this.

Mr. Peacock: Vast sums have been spent on MacDonald Block's artistic design and the furnishing there and so on. Surely we can—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It might be hard to get a consensus on any particular work of art, but there can always be changes.

Mr. Peacock: I would be quite delighted if they were removed, say to the government caucus room—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yours.

Mr. Peacock: —rather than bury them in the basement somewhere.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Do you volunteer? Who is the art committee of the NDP caucus?

Mr. Peacock: You have not appointed one yet.

Mr. Shulman: Do not ask me!

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Our consultant from High Park, in fact he is a Rembrandt man, might lend some of his collection.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pilkey.

Mr. Pilkey: At the beginning of vote 1801 I raised the question of employees' wages for those contracts that are tendered out, and to the best of my knowledge. The Department of Labour has a fair wage schedule for Ontario. I raised the point that in tenders for contracts where these employees are involved there ought to be a fair wage schedule attached. I just wanted to tell the minister that to the best of my knowledge that fair wage schedule is available through The Department of Labour for the whole Province of Ontario, and would just urge him again to take a look at that in terms of employees who work on contracts that are tendered out; in other words, will be contracted out.

Mr. Chairman: Has anybody got any comments with regard to management of buildings, item 3? If not, carried.

An hon. member: Carried.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 1802 carried?

Mr. Peacock: On vote 1802 before it carries, did the minister say he had the figures on Beaver Valley?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, on Meaford Lookout.

Mr. Peacock: That was an 840 acre parcel?

Mr. W. A. Gray (Property Branch): No, a 100 acre parcel.

Mr. Peacock: That was the 100-acre parcel purchased for \$5,000 by the department?

Mr. Gray. Yes. The previous owner purchased it in 1966 for \$1,000.

Vote 1802 agreed to.

On vote 1803:

Mr. Chairman: Item 1 of 1803—mailing services.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, as we go to this vote, I would just say to the hon. member that our files are open. If he wants to come over anytime and check into these things it might be a little more convenient for him.

Mr. Peacock: Would that be the most appropriate way to complete the review?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Although you may have to go to a registry office someplace as well.

Mr. Peacock: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 1 carry?

Mr. Pilkey: Just a question on that before we leave item 1: Transportation and communication of nearly \$1 million; could the minister give us some explanation of that in the mailing services? Is that how much it costs?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is mainly postage. As you will notice down below, there is a recovery of \$945,000. About two or three years ago it was decided that departments would be responsible for their own postage, so we run the meters down there and then we bill them for their postage and certain other costs when we do envelope stuffing and addressographing.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, while I am hoping that everybody will not want to go on a separate day, if any of the members of the committee would like to come and see the central mailing operation,

which starts at 6.30 in the morning, it is really quite an interesting operation and an extremely efficient one.

Mr. Pilkey: Where is that located?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In the basement of the Macdonald Block, very handy to the cafeteria. I think we might even find enough money to give you breakfast afterwards.

Mr. Peacock: On item 1, Mr. Chairman, is the appropriation of the costs of MPP's franking contained in here or in legislative services?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is in legislative services, I believe.

Mr. Peacock: Would the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Yaremko) or the Minister of Public Works be in the better position to answer how much?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think the Provincial Secretary would be. We could find it for you because we bill them, but he would be the proper one because it is in his estimates.

Mr. Chairman: Item 1 agreed to. On item two.

The hon. member for High Park.

Mr. Shulman: I want to ask the minister, what percentage of the central printing shop is not being used at the present time? Last year the department prepared a table, if you recall, showing the percentage not being used and the percentage that was being used.

I am curious too as to what has happened in the past year. I just forget the exact figures, I believe you were only using 35 per cent of your capacity and I want to know what has happened since then.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In the central duplicating service prior to that operation, my notes indicate that we increased the work that we did for the various departments from a dollar total of \$575,996 in 1969-1970 to \$618,373 in 1970-1971, and the print shop volume will increase by 40 million impressions to 118 million impressions in 1971-1972.

Mr. Shulman: The question I was asking was what percentage of your capacity in the print shop were you now using?

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is a fairly technical question and one of the reasons that we set up the measurement was to measure our

own efficiency—the efficiency of our operation—rather than the 24-hour use of the machines.

Mr. Shulman: But you have the figures available.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Kelly can explain it to you better than I can.

Mr. J. J. Kelly (Administration and Finance): It would depend on how you define “capacity.” I think you are referring to a report of a little over a year and a half ago in which capacity was defined roughly as all machines running eight hours a day per eight-hour shift, which is, of course, an impossibility, because the jobs are short—

Mr. Shulman: Yes, I understand. What I am interested in is what has happened in comparison with the figure of a year and a half ago as to now. In other words, have you gone up or have you gone down?

Mr. Kelly: As far as our capacity utilization is concerned we have gone up. Because of the misinterpretation given to those particular figures we do not use that particular formula. Our production, I would say, is roughly 90 per cent based on the hours made available for the shop. We have, for example, brought in more of the departments; in fact, we have pretty well completed the integration programme.

Mr. Shulman: What percentage of the government printing are you now doing?

Mr. Kelly: We are talking about the Metro Toronto-Queen’s Park area, because this was the basis of the programme. I would say that if there is any we are not doing, it is rather nominal. The only business I am aware we are not doing is that of Trade and Development up on 950 Yonge Street. I think when they come down to the Mowat Block here later this year we will be doing work for them, and also that of The Department of Labour down on Front Street.

Other than that, all departments I am aware of, except of course, Highways up on Downsview, are integrated with the central duplicating service.

Mr. Shulman: You are doing all the printing for the Department of Education are you?

Mr. Kelly: We have been as of April 1 of this year.

Mr. Shulman: What about the OPP?

Mr. Kelly: The OPP, as far as I know—yes, we do the Department of Justice and I believe we do the OPP. Now there may be some exceptions to that rule where there is confidential information. For confidential information and very short runs we have satellite operations; we call them copy centres. Where there might be five or 10 copies there is no point in sending the material over a few blocks to get it done by central duplicating. It would just take time and would be inefficient.

So the best answer I could give is that we have pretty well completed the integration programme and productivity is improving. To try and hit on a definition of capacity we would find it rather difficult to come to some agreement.

Mr. Shulman: Thank you, that is all I wanted to know.

Mr. Chairman: Item two. Mr. Peacock.

Mr. Peacock: On item two, Mr. Chairman: Some time ago, much more than a year—I guess in the fall of 1969 to be exact, I first asked central printing and duplicating—is that the exact name, in the basement of the east block?—to reproduce by photo offsetting, as the process was, a newspaper article which ran at the time. I found then that the service was extremely good. Quick and efficient and delivery was the next morning, I think, from the time I presented the material.

It was a fairly simple piece of work and I thought that central duplicating could be a very real resource for members who wish to have that high volume reproduction service available to them.

However, the next time I approached central printing and duplicating for a reprint of Hansard I ran into all kinds of snags. By virtue of, I believe, a memo or order from Mr. Speaker’s office, any material that was in the nature of a reprint of Hansard would have to be vetted by him.

I wonder if you could tell us to what extent members of the House have been using central printing and duplicating for that type of work, and what kinds of restrictions they are under?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that there was a change in procedure because there was some delay in collecting.

Mr. Peacock: Not from me.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, from some sources apparently.

Mr. Peacock: I had my cheque right there in my hand.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think I recall some discussion about this prior to my coming to this job, and a system was worked out, I believe, through the three caucuses, that a requisition would be forthcoming, and when this was forthcoming we would do the work and in cases of any dispute it would be referred to Mr. Speaker. So as far as I know at the present time the members' work is being processed in that fashion.

Mr. Peacock: You see, Mr. Chairman, there are two divisions of the way—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Then there are, of course, copy facilities in the members' quarters.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, but not for the type of work I had in mind then or which I would like to do in the future. A quick reproduction of a large number of copies in the photo-offset process.

Caucuses get appropriations from the government, appropriations that are worked out by the party leaders, subject to the final approval of the Prime Minister. Out of these appropriations each caucus finances its own needs in its own way. But above and beyond that obviously, there are services that members require as individual MPPs, as individual members of the House, and reprints of speeches or reprints of newspaper clippings or magazine articles are not expenditures appropriately charged to the caucus appropriation—at least not in my caucus and I suspect this would be the case in the others. Therefore it leads one to ask, what recognition does The Department of Public Works give to the individual needs of the member in regard to printing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say that as long as Mr. Speaker approves of it and the individual member can arrange to pay for it we would get it done.

Mr. Peacock: All right, now assuming that the money is presented with the work order. Do you still require the Speaker's approval of any piece of work that is presented to you?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If it has a highly partisan context, I suppose. I do not think that we propose to do a lot of printing for the Tory, Grit or socialist parties. There is a fine line,

perhaps, between what a member might do on his own behalf—I am now thinking out loud—and if there was not some sort of control what might happen—well supposing by some fluke we had a separatist elected in the next election who decided that, since he was the only member of his party, that he get all his party's printing done at our rates, which are pretty good. In that case I do not think that the government of the day—and I must say I am assuming of course that it will not change—but I am also assuming that in the wild chance that there might be some other party, they certainly would not want to try and finance their own printing, and I do not think they would be prepared to finance another party's printing. I think this is where the—

Mr. Peacock: That is why I do not use central printing and duplicating, because when I want a copy of Hansard reproduced—

Hon. Mr. Auld: You can get copies of Hansard from the printer.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, but in quantity, in large quantities—15,000 or 20,000—which it is not always possible to arrange in advance with Noble, Scott, which does the printing for the legislative assembly.

Hon. Mr. Auld: All I can say to that is, "Holy mackerell!"

Mr. Peacock: Well, I put out material in that quantity, but not speeches, not full-length speeches.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Pollution Probe is going to be getting after you.

Mr. Peacock: When a member wishes to do that, and he wants to put on the front cover of his reprint of Hansard the name "Legislative Assembly" and his name and, say, the subject of the speech, then I do not propose that the Speaker will be directing me how to design the cover, what size of type to set it in and so on. That is the kind of problem I am talking about, not the Maoist party or some separatist party getting financed by one of the caucuses. I tell you quite frankly that this kind of vetting is not acceptable to members of the Legislature, and that is one of the reasons you have not got any business out of MPPs and you will not be getting it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the procedure we have adopted, which we have just discussed, was agreed to by the three

party leaders, although this was before my time as minister—about two and a half to three years ago.

Mr. Peacock: Can you tell me if you have had any work done on order or at the request of an individual member of the Legislature in the last year or so?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed we have.

Mr. Peacock: Would you have any idea what value it had?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, but I suppose we could dig it up.

Mr. Peacock: Or the quantity?

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Before we leave this vote, might I ask, assuming that the material to be printed is non-controversial and so on—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It can be controversial.

Mr. Braithwaite: But not too controversial—on the borderline.

Mr. Peacock: As long as it is not a speech from Hansard.

Mr. Braithwaite: What I want to find out, first of all, is what criteria do you use to determine whether or not it can be printed by central printing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well as I say—and I have to say that I am not completely familiar with this—my recollection is that material would be submitted through these channels to the central purchasing people and somebody there would look at it; if they were in doubt they would send it to Mr. Speaker and ask if this is okay.

I am informed that there have been things like minutes of a party meeting that were submitted which were weeded out—for instance, the meeting I will be attending next Tuesday of the Leeds Progressive Conservative Association; this sort of thing. I was not aware until now that there was any question—it is really sort of a hypothetical question to me. If anybody has a problem, naturally, I would be delighted to go into it in detail.

Mr. Braithwaite: I just wanted to follow up on the question of the member for Windsor West, because—let us make the assumption that the material is not controversial—what I really want to find out is on what basis is the cost determined? Is there a profit figure for overhead added to the cost or is it a straight time cost, or just how is it figured?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think it is a time cost that includes a degree of overhead. There is no profit; when I say there is no profit I assume that the costs that are included are the press time, some degree of cost for light, heat and water—in the same way that we charge the other departments.

Mr. Braithwaite: You mentioned the costs were very reasonable. I just wondered how they were determined.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, there is a price schedule. When I say that it is reasonable, this is what I am told. I am not an expert on printing costs, on quantities and types of printing and so on, but I am told that it is quite reasonable.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2?

Mr. Peacock: Would the Minister of Public Works have no objection to a member of the Legislature presenting the central printing and duplicating with a clipping from a newspaper and taking his order for say 1,000 or 1,500 copies of it? As Minister of Public Works, you would have no such objection?

Hon. Mr. Auld: As long as you get approval for it.

Mr. Peacock: You first have to have us go through the Speaker's office?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Again I hate to answer what is to a degree a hypothetical question, but what newspaper are you talking about?

Mr. Peacock: I beg your pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I mean there are a great many newspapers. I remember seeing one that was submitted to the Attorney General about obscenity. I would not want to say we will print anything that you can find on newsprint.

Mr. Peacock: Are you not prepared to rely on the judgement of the members of the Legislature that work requested of the central printing is in connection with legislative responsibility?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I rely on the system that was worked out between the three party leaders and the Speaker.

Mr. Peacock: That is pretty ancient, Mr. Minister, and relates more, I understand, to the failure of certain members of the Legislature in Legislatures gone by to pay their bills, rather than to the contents.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed on the printing of political material—and I think the hon. member would agree—that the way this system works, the Speaker is the person who operates on behalf of the members with the government, and he works through the whips, and the Prime Minister works through the other party leaders.

Mr. Peacock: But I say this to you: You rely on the judgement of the member in using his telephone credit card or the government direct line because you are pretty well forced to until you have an opportunity to review the calls he has made after the fact, as Bell Telephone submits its accounts. Now surely, where you have immediate access to the material submitted to central printing and duplicating, its director or officer could immediately make a judgement as to whether or not that could go ahead immediately or should be referred to the Speaker's office or yourself.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would be pretty hard to tap all the lines and refer all the calls to the Speaker.

Mr. Peacock: That is what I am saying. You rely on the member's judgement in regard to the use of his telephone credit card. Why can you not also rely on his judgement in material submitted for printing to the point where your official questions its propriety, without having to go through the Speaker's office on every piece of material.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If our people feel that this is questionable, they do not turn it down; they refer it to the Speaker. That is my understanding.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, well in that event—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think that you would ever want to put a civil servant in the position of making a value judgement on the political content of something.

Mr. Peacock: Not unless he has some guidelines presented by the minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would prefer not to have anybody on my staff have to operate under guidelines in that sort of a situation.

Mr. Peacock: Then I suggest to you that there is very little service for members out of central printing, if they run up against this very hazy situation, this vagueness about it all. You know, either a piece of material is clearly within the member's competence to use in connection with his legislative work

or not. If it is an extract from Hansard, what possible doubt can there be about its propriety? If it is a newspaper clipping, complete with headline, dated, with no alterations—no inserts or typewritten entries other than the source and date—what objection could there be to reproducing that without checking?

Hon. Mr. Auld: All I can say is that we are providing a service under the terms of reference laid down by the party leaders and the Speaker. I might agree entirely with you, but it is not my decision.

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the answer is for the minister to supply us with those guidelines, musty as they may be, and we can proceed to unravel this thing in the procedural affairs committee of the House, as to what the guidelines should be now.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would think that might be a good approach, but I would think that the guidelines would be supplied by Mr. Speaker, who is in effect the arbiter.

Mr. Peacock: In consultation with the House or its committee on procedural affairs.

Mr. H. L. Rowntree (York West): Go to your own leader.

Mr. Braithwaite: Speaking of printing, does the minister know of any plans for the printing of the constituency maps similar to the printing that each member was granted in the spring of 1967.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Do you mean one for each member or a quantity for a member's riding?

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes, for the riding.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that we would not do that in the central duplicating shop, that it would be contracted out, because we do not have the type of equipment to do that. I do not know of any plans to do this. I do not know of any requests actually.

Mr. Braithwaite: I recall in 1967 that every member was allowed—I thought it was through the minister's department—a printing of the constituency map, enough for distribution in his own riding.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Was it Public Works or was it Lands and Forests?

Mr. Braithwaite: It was Public Works, down in the basement, in the east wing, I believe.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I will find out about this and let you know.

Mr. Braithwaite: The minister is not aware at all of that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I am not aware of any requests or plans at the moment.

Mr. Braithwaite: I see.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are not aware of any requests or any plans at the moment, but there may be something afoot through the chief electoral officer. I do not know.

Mr. Braithwaite: The other point I want to raise, Mr. Chairman, on which perhaps you could give me some guidance, is that I want to ask about the question of wages and employment with reference to these electricians and carpenters and other tradesmen in various sections of the minister's department, who were laid off and rehired. The minister will recall that this question was put to him in the House not long ago, and the minister undertook to table details of same. I have had my secretary phone several times, because I have several letters waiting to reply to, waiting on the minister's information. I want to find out first of all—

Mr. Chairman: We passed that, hon. member for Etobicoke, on our first vote, item 2, personnel services. It was voted and passed.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I might be out of order. I do not want to open this whole thing up at the moment, but I am aware of some of the problems that the member is speaking of. There are a couple of things that are not quite resolved because there may be some slight change in policy. I will have the information which I undertook to get for him. Hopefully, it is being prepared by the staff and I should have it perhaps next week.

Mr. Braithwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I am particularly concerned about, is that I was not on the committee at the time that this came up but since it involved so many different departments—sections of the minister's department—I wanted to find out, not so much about the outside work that was being done, but on—these electricians and so on that were being hired, say, on a yearly contract.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You are interested in the maintenance men.

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes; I am not worried about them. I am worried more about others. I have two cases, in particular, in front of me. One is a carpenter, a Mr. Evans. He has been with the department for 16 years and actually is an employee of the department. The other is an electrician who has been with the department for over 20 years. They are not outside help; these are employees of the government. In both cases, what has been brought to my attention, and I would like to get the minister's views on it, is the fact that these people have—

Mr. Chairman: You have to stay in order Mr. Braithwaite.

Mr. Braithwaite: I just want to ask one question if I may, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): We need a new chairman!

Mr. Chairman: The minister has offered you the information and he will get it for you in a week's time.

Mr. Braithwaite: No; I am asking a particular question.

Mr. Chairman: This has nothing to do with item 2. This is printing, publishing and duplicating. Let us stay on the track.

Mr. Braithwaite: Does the minister object to answering the question that I am putting?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I must say, Mr. Chairman, that I would prefer naturally to stay in order. If the hon. member wants to ask me another question in the House he can certainly do that.

Mr. Braithwaite: Since we are right on the point that I am particularly concerned about I would like to ask a question.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not have my personnel people here right now. They have gone.

Mr. Braithwaite: I see. Perhaps the minister could take note of this. What I wanted to make certain is that when the information is tabled in the House, if the minister could indicate in that information, if he could make certain about the fate of, not particularly the people who were outside employees, but I am talking about the actual employees of the government, whose standard of living has dropped at least by two-thirds in some cases, and who were forced to bid back on their

own jobs and become part of the permanent staff.

I am particularly concerned why these people were kept on temporary staff for 16 years and 22 years and then suddenly forced to come back at a much lower rate of pay. What I am concerned about is has the minister's department actually taken any steps to make certain that these people receive some sort of compensation, because I have a letter here from a lady—

Mr. Chairman: You are out of order; you are very much out of order.

Mr. Braithwaite: Just a minute! All right, I am out of order, but I think this is most important.

Mr. Chairman: Yes but—

Mr. Braithwaite: I think this is most important—

Mr. Chairman: Order, if you had been here yesterday—

Mr. Braithwaite: I was not able to be in this committee yesterday, Mr. Chairman. I think this is most important. The people in this province are being shoved around and anybody who had been with the government 22 years, he at least should have his case brought before this committee without the Chairman being—

Mr. Chairman: If you had been that interested you would have been here yesterday.

Mr. Braithwaite: I want the minister to say something. I think this is most important. I am trying to point out to the minister how important it is that he should make it quite definite in his information that is tabled that these people have not been hurt. That is all I am trying to point out.

Mr. Chairman: That is all—

Mr. Braithwaite: I do not think it behooves the Chairman at all to step in now and say that I am out of order.

Mr. Sargent: Right.

Mr. Chairman: You are out of order.

Mr. Braithwaite: I think we are here to support the rights of the people of Ontario and particularly the rights of the poor people who have no one else to speak for them. I say, Mr. Chairman, that I do not agree with you at all. I would like to—

Mr. Chairman: You are out of order.

Mr. Sargent: The Chairman is out of order.

Mr. Chairman: We will call a vote and find out whether you are out of order if you like.

Mr. Braithwaite: Pardon me?

Mr. Chairman: If you want we will call a vote of the committee and find out whether you are out of order or not.

Mr. Braithwaite: I just want to—

Mr. Chairman: Are you going to abide by the Chairman's ruling or not?

Mr. Braithwaite: I still think—

Mr. Chairman: Let us have some order in this place. We are on item 2. Has anyone else got anything on item 2 to discuss?

Mr. Peacock: Does item 2 cover the Queen's Printer Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Vote 1803 appears to cover the Queen's Printer—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It does.

Mr. Peacock: Item 2 covers the Queen's Printer? Could I ask the minister then if the Queen's Printer intends to open branch offices in locations other than Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is being studied at the moment but there is no plan for any specific place at the moment.

Mr. Peacock: None whatsoever, no particular place? Within the study being taken on, are there any limits as to the size of the community other than Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Windsor, London, the major centres of the province?

Hon. Mr. Auld: One of the things we would be considering would be the demand and the amount of business, and what it would cost, whether it would be self-supporting and so on.

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Chairman, as I understand the policy of the government now, the Queen's Printer forwards certain government documents to depository libraries of the province, these are usually the public libraries of the province, but many other major libraries, particularly the university libraries are not depository libraries. They therefore do not automatically receive documents of the government provided either by the Queen's

Printer or by the department of government as a matter of course as the public libraries do, insofar as they are depository libraries.

I frequently get requests, particularly from the universities—sometimes from the community college and from individual students, sometimes the chamber of commerce, and law offices occasionally—as to how they can quickly get a hold of a recent government report. That is why I raised the matter as to whether branch offices would be open.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is one of the things that we are looking at, because our purpose is to devise a system to overcome as much of this problem as we can.

Mr. Peacock: All right; with regard to the catalogue of publications that was prepared by the Queen's Printer when the new office of Queen's Printer and Publisher was established, I believe that catalogue has not been revised since the first edition. If that is correct, when will it be revised again?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is under revision. We will have a new catalogue some time later this month, and it will be a monthly catalogue.

Mr. Peacock: With inserts for a binder type of thing, which is a very good way of keeping people up to date? I ask the minister if, as a matter of course, this catalogue is now sent to all of the university libraries, all of the community college libraries as well as the depository libraries?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that there is a method being developed so that they can make application and then we will put them on the list and send it to them.

Mr. Peacock: It will be a continuous permanent list?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, very much like other things, like the notices to mariners from the federal government, I suppose.

Mr. Peacock: Because some of the acquisition people in the libraries of the province—and I have had occasion to speak with librarians in Windsor, of course, but also in Thunder Bay, at the university and at the college there—they feel that sometimes they miss publications of the government that are important because the catalogue is not yet operating on an insert basis.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the librarians' association has been in touch with us about the problem, and of course

our main purpose is to get the widest distribution possible, except that we do not want to be sending a lot of people things they just throw away. We want to find out what people want and get it to them.

Mr. Peacock: All right; in regard to a public library's reference section or the government document section of a university library or a community college, surely you are not going to find yourself in the position of sending out material that is not usable. If there is anything a reference section of a public library or a government document section needs, it is multiple copies so that demands for circulation can be met.

Hon. Mr. Auld: They will be able to decide from the catalogue.

Mr. Peacock: I would urge the minister that he not only establish this new system of notification to users of new publications but that he consider making the university libraries themselves depository libraries, so that they get exactly every publication of government as it is issued.

Now may I ask a question that I raised a number of years ago? Under the Queen's Printer and Publisher, does each department of government now submit its annual report and other major documents issued by the department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not yet, and as a matter of fact I can tell you that we have just taken on contract a gentleman from Ryerson, Mr. Farr—sorry, he is not on contract; he is a private consultant—to look at that specific problem along with a number of others.

Mr. Peacock: In that regard, is he going to be looking at the standards of printing that various departments will be expected to adhere to in producing their annual reports? I refer to the matter raised in the House by the member for Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr)—the annual report of the Province of Ontario Council for the Arts. I understand that—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I seem to recall something about that.

Mr. Peacock: Yes. One of the functions of the Queen's Printer is to establish the standards and in this report, as in past years, the Council for the Arts has set a very high standard indeed for the typography, the layout, the design, the quality of the paper and the use of colour. I have noticed, in going into this matter in the public accounts

committee, that many other department emulate the Council for the Arts, so I wonder if the standard was now universal for all departments of government. The Department of Highways' report was \$14 per copy several years ago. The Minister of Education's report was \$4 and some cents a copy. Another department, whose name I do not recall, had an annual report worth about \$7 per copy for the 1968-1969 year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well it cost about \$7 a copy.

Mr. Peacock: Yes. This report of the Council for the Arts, with 36 pages, has text or copy on 28 of them which are numbered. Four are unnumbered. There are four cover pages with some clipping and pasting. As the member for Sandwich-Riverside pointed out, that could be reduced to 12 pages with four cover pages. As it is, you know, and with a great number of departments, particularly in The Department of Education, there are tremendous quantities of white space with very little copy or text.

In some of The Department of Education's publications for curriculum outlines, there is page after page given over to photographs or illustrations which really do not support the text in any fashion whatsoever. It makes it a very very nice document to thumb through, and when I quizzed some of the officials of The Department of Education about it, I said, "Do you think it really motivates people to read it any more than if you cut down the number of photographs, cut down the space devoted to them and crammed a little more type in it? Would their motivation be less?" And they said, "Yes." They are really convinced. Perhaps your standards have helped to convince them that what they need is lots of white space and lots of photographs.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have often wondered, just thinking out loud, whether we might get more effect to use the newspaper technique and put a few cartoons in.

Mr. Peacock: Well, Mr. Chairman, the newspaper technique is rather effective where there is good typography and layout. You will notice that advertisements tend to use the latest in typographical design and lots of white space. The best advertisements usually have ample white space around them. It is an excellent technique for advertising. I question whether it is the proper technique for annual reports, for curriculum course outlines, for reports of royal com-

missions, for reports of—perhaps we will except the Council for the Arts by virtue of its particular activity.

But for everyday ministerial reports, for commissioned reports, for studies by committees, for reprints of the budget statements and speeches by the Prime Minister, we could do with something less. I would like to ask the minister if he can table a set of standards that pertains to the printing and publishing needs of the government.

Mr. Rowntree: There is also, Mr. Chairman, the question of odd sizes, overall sizes, of reports which come in almost all flavours and sizes and colours of the spectrum. To me, they are relatively useless. When it comes to filing, I think a standardization process is highly desirable—especially considering such factors as putting them in bookcases and this sort of thing—because many of the reports, and I am not confining it to government reports but reports generally, many of them that we receive in the mail, are impossible to file in our bookcases and hence go straight into the waste-baskets.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Sargent.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I think that of all the estimates that I have sat on, the remarks of the members for Windsor West and York West could not be more to the point, but I doubt very much that anything can be done about it. This half a million dollars that we are talking about here is more money than McClelland and Stewart are talking about in the book publishing industry.

This is my business. I publish maybe seven million books a year, and it is galling to me as a taxpayer—the member for Windsor West brought this up too—to pick up a book that would cost half a dollar to print and no one looks at the damned thing; it is full of white space, fully of glossy stock. It is something that Leon Weinstein might put out for Loblaw's or for Garfield Weston—a thick glossy-stock book for a directors' meeting.

It is a glaring display of wealth to foist this upon the taxpayers of this province. It is a sickening thing, especially when the government is budgeting for a \$500 million deficit this year and it is racking up another \$500,000 in this area of publishing.

I would like to support what my two colleagues have said, that there has to be some kind of business approach to it. It is a big con game now by whoever presses the button that says, "Go" on this certain report. Seriously, Mr. Minister, as a businessman, one

cannot buy that kind of stuff. It is just a waste of money, and the taxpayers are eventually getting wise to what is going on. You have no regard for a buck.

Here we have \$549 million—the Chairman might rule me out of order for saying this—but in a business these things are put through a purchasing department where there may be three or four bids on each job. Does the minister have three or four bids on each piece of crap that comes out of here? I say that it is crap to the ordinary person.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We get bids on those items that are done outside, rather than through our own service—anything over \$1,000. In some cases you might get 10 bids, I suppose, and in some cases you might get 30. I know from my experience in Tourism and Information that the Queen's Printer called bids on all the work that the department had done outside.

Mr. Sargent: I am sorry. They are all competitive bids?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: They are on a low-bid basis?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes. But in that field, where you are doing colour reproduction, there are, as the member knows, degrees of competence.

Mr. Sargent: Are these by invitational tender? How do we get at this?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In that case, where it is for a special kind of item with full colour, and so forth—

Mr. Sargent: When you were the minister, not of this department but Tourism, did you set the yardsticks for quality and so forth?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Peacock: That is what I wanted to ask, Mr. Chairman.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I want to make this clear. There are really two kinds of publications. There are, for instance, highway road maps that have to be done to a certain standard so that people can read them. They have to be put on paper that will last.

There are other things like our phone directory where we use a very cheap stock because it is a disposable item. There are certain requirements for types of printing for

different departments. Going back to the question of annual reports, which has been a matter of interest to me for a long time, from what Mr. Rowntree said, I have often felt it would be far more convenient at least to have them all the same size.

This is one of the items which I mentioned before that our consultant is studying because we hope to set up, and we will set up specific standard sizes and so on.

Mr. Peacock: What are the present standards, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The present standards—I may say that our report cost \$1.50 I think, approximately. There are no standards at the present time.

Mr. Peacock: There are still no standards?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are no standards in terms of size or paper.

Mr. Peacock: When was the office of the Queen's Printer and Publisher established?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Effectively, January 1—

Mr. Peacock: Of 1970?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, 1970.

Mr. Peacock: So a year and some months later we are still operating on an ad hoc basis, report by report, department by department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In terms of annual reports, yes. There are a number of other things that have been accomplished, and of course you can appreciate that you cannot do everything on January 2.

Mr. Peacock: I believe one of the accomplishments you might be referred to is the translation of government materials into French for publication by the Queen's Printer. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do not translate them.

Mr. Peacock: No, but you issue them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The issuing people do that.

Mr. Peacock: That has also taken a considerable length of time.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Peacock: May I ask, does The Department of Public Works know how much of the expenditures listed in the 1971-1972 estimates on table 3, pages 347 and 348, under

the heading services goes to printing costs by all sections and agencies and departments of government? I assume that the heading services covers printing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that we are analysing that to see how much of that is printing. I cannot tell the hon. member at the moment.

Mr. Peacock: That would be a very interesting figure to have, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are getting it.

Mr. Peacock: It may be mixed between other headings, supplies and equipment, and so on but likely it would fall into the category of services which total \$159.9 million in this set of estimates. I would imagine a very large share of that would be accounted for by printing.

As I recall, in the examination by the public accounts committee of the accounts of The Department of Education, something over \$500,000 was spent by that department in the year we were looking at on printing alone. It is questionable that with standards of an appropriate level, not as high as the Council for the Arts, but granting that the departments of governments have some entitlement to fair presentation of their reports and other documents, the costs of printing would be considerably lower than they probably are now. If those standards were in effect with board covers of this type as against full gloss and this type in the Council for the Arts report—that is, in comparing The Department of Public Works with the Council for the Arts—it would probably cut costs tremendously. How are the quantities determined upon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: By the department.

Mr. Peacock: By the department and without review or questioning by The Department of Public Works?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not by The Department of Public Works but by Treasury Board secretariat.

Mr. Peacock: Treasury Board secretariat! In the case of the Council for the Arts—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Although, if it is a saleable item we would have something to say about it because we would also estimate the likely sale which might not—

Mr. Sargent: How many tons of books do you burn each year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think we—

Mr. Sargent: Well, you should know that.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): They recycle them all.

Mr. Sargent: No, I am serious about that. In all these operations you have to eat a good portion of your press run. I will bet that you burn 100 tons of books a year in this operation.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would hope we use the term destroy rather than book-burning. That has a different connotation.

Mr. Sargent: Use either one; you either burn them or destroy them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, we have started to recycle them now.

Mr. Peacock: How many publications of the Queen's Printer—

Mr. Sargent: What do you mean by recycle?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Putting the paper in a hopper and making waste paper out of it and selling it back to a paper company.

Mr. Sargent: Well, if that is the situation, that is eating, is it not?

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Chairman, does the minister have any estimate of the quantities that were returned in that fashion—to pulp—for a recent period of time?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have not got any estimate of it.

Mr. Peacock: What has been repulped—material that did not move? The Department of Public Works then, to conclude that point, would have nothing to say about the order from the Council for the Arts for 5,000 plus copies of the report of the Council for the Arts. Is it likely that you would know what disposition the Council for the Arts made? Do you follow through to find out how many copies were disposed of?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Peacock: To the public or for internal use? So you know only in respect to those that you are marketing yourself or producing for your own purposes.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Just a minute. Mr. Rowntree.

Mr. Rowntree: I think that since we are discussing the publication of reports, we should bear in mind that there are various kinds of reports. For instance, the report of the superintendent of insurance and of The Department of Labour are reports which contain a tremendous amount of statistical information which the industry is dependent upon for its operation. Those reports of that type are prepared in table form. They are usually full of tables and of information data pertaining to certain operations both industry-wide and specifics—

Mr. Sargent: On a functional basis?

Mr. Rowntree: Yes, and on a statistical basis, like the number of apprentice electricians and all of that kind of thing.

In the insurance field, the number of automobiles insured and the records of the insurance companies and their capital assets and financial stability matters. These are items which the industry and the public require for another purpose than the other type of report which is sort of a goodwill or advertising type of publication. No doubt these will be matters which a consultant will take into account when he is making his report. They all lend themselves to different areas of distribution and in different quantities.

Mr. Peacock: Just as the minister might decide that something an MPP wants done is political, he might well decide that something a minister wants done in his annual report would be promotional of the minister, like the present Prime Minister used to do when he was Minister of Education.

Mr. Rowntree: I do not know that I have seen very much of that.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister if all printing for government goes through the Queen's Printer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not yet.

Mr. Sargent: In other words, other departments issue separate deals?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They have the money in their estimates. They are encouraged and in some cases directed to use the Queen's Printer, but in some cases they still do it.

Mr. Sargent: With the permission of the Chairman, I would like to ask you, if central purchasing, if it is to be meaningful—this vote

has \$500,000 here—if it is to work at all, does the minister not agree that all things should be funnelled through the Queen's Printer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: To a degree! I would not want to say at this point until we have completed the work we are doing in working with the departments. It could well be that there were some things—for instance, I think of The Department of Highways road map—which perhaps they can do more effectively because of the single kind of thing which they have been doing for years.

Mr. Sargent: Once again, may I interrupt for a second? If the minister is to answer my question properly, might I ask are you in charge of central purchasing per se? Right? Your department? I know it is another vote, Mr. Chairman, but it has a bearing on what I am going to ask here.

Have you studied the *modus operandi* of central purchasing in other jurisdictions?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: All right. Then why cannot you make your mind up?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have made up our mind as the Treasurer (Mr. McKeough) announced, but we have not worked out all the details. As I said, the other day—

Mr. Sargent: But you have been five years doing this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I said the other day, as I understand it the federal authorities who have been working on this for some time in a very complex operation too, have taken some seven years and I do not think they are quite finished.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, Alberta, Saskatchewan, all the prairie provinces. In Alberta, they saved about \$7 million a year when they went through central purchasing. We are going to save \$15 million a year. We have not saved a penny here.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that they are not completely centralized as yet.

Mr. Sargent: Which is not?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Alberta.

Mr. Sargent: Think what they will do when they are completely centralized.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Our people have been visiting all the other jurisdictions in Canada, or at least most.

Mr. Sargent: I will finish, Mr. Chairman. Why then would not all printing go through the Queen's Printer? Why should some departments have the right to go their own route?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because we have not worked out an effective method of satisfying the requirements.

Mr. Sargent: Who has not?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We, The Department of Public Works and Treasury Board.

Mr. Sargent: So you tell them they can go their own route then, do you?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No; we encourage them to go our route, and if there are things that they want done that we are perhaps not—

Mr. Sargent: Who is the boss of this function?

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I finish the answer? There are some things that we are apparently not equipped, in the view of the other departments, to do for them. These are things that we have to improve.

Mr. Sargent: What would that be? I do not know.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Textbooks are one that is mentioned to me.

Mr. Sargent: It could go through the Queen's Printer for dispersal to the proper printer.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that we have not worked out a satisfactory arrangement in a number of items.

Mr. Sargent: Qualify that will you, please? What can you not work out?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have got to work out the policies and procedures first before we actually get into the production or the purchase of the item.

Mr. Sargent: Everything is pretty simple in black and white. You mean to tell me that the Queen's Printer has not got the intelligence to find what is the deal?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No; I said we have not got the policies and procedures worked out, the red tape if you wish.

Mr. Sargent: When will you have that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: As soon as we can.

Mr. Sargent: But I want to know do you not have a target date to say, as of this date, we are going to do this?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I cannot give you a specific date. I learned a long time ago not to do that. Things happen.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, is it the minister's intention eventually to have all printing by all departments go through the Queen's Printer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is the aim. As I said a moment ago though, it may be that we will find that there are certain things that can be done more effectively. I cannot tell you what they are. I just know from experience that sometimes the completion of an idea is not as easy as you think when you start out.

Mr. B. Newman: All right then, but the intention really is to centralize printing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Everything that can be effectively and economically done.

Mr. B. Newman: For certain items, I can understand it would not be economically feasible actually to undertake that type of printing. As you mentioned, road maps may be one, but when it comes to the manufacture or the printing of text books, there must be a sufficient demand for the printing of texts in various departments to make that economically feasible, do you not think?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You would know more about textbooks than I do, but I am sure there must be some that are not, that may have a use of perhaps only a few thousand in the province as opposed to tens of thousands.

Mr. B. Newman: I do not mean commercial textbooks now. I mean texts that are printed for departmental use and for distribution by the department—royal commission reports, select committee reports, and so forth. We notice they come in two types, the paper-bound and they likewise come in the hard-cover. From the fact that there are so many of these being printed outside, I would assume it should be a viable economic operation to undertake that through the Queen's Printer.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is included in the terms of reference of the consultant whom I mentioned a few moments ago.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister if most of the printing that is out on tender, is that invitational tender now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is; yes.

Mr. B. Newman: It is invitational; it is not public tender?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. It is public in the sense that it is public knowledge, but it is not an advertisement in the paper.

Mr. B. Newman: You select which group of printers is going to bid on a certain type of job?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, and for one reason. One reason for this is that not all printers have the same kind of equipment. There are certain people who might want to bid on something, but cannot produce the kind of result that you want. The Queen's Printer circularized all printers in the province, about 1,200, and invited them to submit equipment lists—we provide a form for this. Not all of them replied, but we now have about 1,000, so we have an idea of what kind of work they can do.

Mr. B. Newman: All right; the new election ballot will be done apparently reverse offset. Do all municipalities, to the best of your knowledge, have equipment to be able to have the ballot printed locally? You would know that from the equipment that the various printers have.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I cannot answer a technical question like that. I would say this, though, that as I recall it the ballots in their blank form—at least without the names of the candidates on them—the ballot and the numbered ballot are printed in one or two or three places. Then once the nomination meeting has been held, the names are printed on. The returning officer has blank ballots. He gets these printed at some operation where they can print this kind of thing locally.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): It is the returning officer's responsibility, is it? He decides on any printer he wishes?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I assume any printer who can do the job.

Mr. B. Newman: I have a couple of other questions. May I ask of the minister, in the purchase of supplies, the paper itself, how is that done in the department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is done for those non-specialty papers in bulk by the Queen's Printer.

Mr. B. Newman: Is it on a tender basis?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you have any conditions under which you will not buy certain papers? In other words, if the concern from whom you were buying, the original manufacturer, is not attempting a pollution control programme to your satisfaction, does that make no difference at all? You still purchase his supplies?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The people who decide that sort of thing and have the competence to see whether the paper manufacturer is controlling pollution are OWRC.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, but do you not think that you—

Hon. Mr. Auld: They are the people who deal with it.

Mr. B. Newman: —could co-operate with OWRC, and to show your concern for pollution control should maybe make it one of the conditions under which you would not buy supplies from a certain firm, if they are not expediting their pollution control and pollution abatement programme.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As far as I know, from what has been said in the Legislature by the minister responsible, they all are; otherwise they would be impeached.

Mr. B. Newman: Maybe they all are to a limited degree, but lately not to the satisfaction of the public. We would certainly like to see the manufacturers accelerate any pollution control programmes and I think you have a good weapon here by which you could maybe encourage them to accelerate their programmes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I doubt that our volume would have much accelerating effect.

Mr. B. Newman: With \$1 million worth—

Mr. Rowntree: I am surprised to hear the member for Windsor-Walkerville advancing such a theory as this, which might threaten the job employment opportunities of people spread across this whole province. The responsibility should be left with the Water Resources Commission. The member's theory could very well put dozens of employees out of work.

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I comment? It just occurs to me—and I do not think this would happen—but we might be accused of not accepting a low bid from somebody because the Minister of Public Works was not satisfied with his pollution control activities and the OWRC was. How would I answer that one?

Mr. B. Newman: I said in co-operation with OWRC. I did not say by yourself, so I qualified that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well then, we would both be accused.

Mr. B. Newman: I am surprised that the former Minister of Labour (Mr. Rowntree) would make a comment like that. Surely he should express a greater concern for pollution abatement than he is.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I must say I think we are getting a little bit away from the Queen's Printer.

Mr. B. Newman: He apparently would like our waters polluted, providing they supply jobs—

Mr. Chairman: Order! Are you through with questions on—

Mr. B. Newman: —and I would think that our first interest is to control the pollution and this department has a weapon that can partially control it, or partially attempt to control it and you are not taking advantage of it.

Mr. Chairman: Is there anything more on publishing?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I am on the purchase of paper, Mr. Chairman; the purchase of paper by the department.

You have not attempted to, but you can attempt to control it. Some newspapers in this province will not buy paper from mills that do not satisfy them that they are proceeding with their pollution control programmes to the extent and to the limit that they can accelerate or proceed with their programmes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pilkey, the member for Oshawa.

Mr. Pilkey: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to ask the minister—all these publications of speeches that are made by various ministers in the Province of Ontario, including the Prime Minister, that we find on our desk nearly every day—

Hon. Mr. Auld: With delight I am sure; with anticipation!

Mr. Pilkey: Oh yes, I certainly appreciate them, it is the first thing I go through. I read them in their entirety. Who publishes all those? Is it the Queen's Printer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would not say they were published. They are generally mimeographed and they would be done by the department.

Mr. Pilkey: By your department?

Hon. Mr. Auld: By the copy centres which we discussed a little while ago.

Mr. Pilkey: Is that under your jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The copy centres are, but the funds for this would be, I assume, in the main office vote of the department concerned.

Mr. Peacock: Would you do the printing?

Mr. Pilkey: I just wanted to follow that up. Very frankly I appreciate getting the speeches, but the one that landed on my desk was the one that the Prime Minister made at the nomination convention in Scarborough North.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): A dandy speech.

Mr. Pilkey: In your view it might be a dandy speech, but it seems to me that that is a political speech—well they are all political speeches, but this was more blatant. If this is done under the auspices of your department, then I am not convinced that this is a proper use of the taxpayers' money.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think you will find that that was—if it was the one I am thinking of—published by PC headquarters.

Mr. Peacock: It came right off the Prime Minister's mimeo equipment. When you speak of a copy centre is that the same thing as central duplicating?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, the copy centres—there are four of them at the moment—are for small runs. There are six people involved; in the Prime Minister's department and in University Affairs, Revenue and one between Transport and Public Works.

Mr. Peacock: Not Municipal Affairs?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, they are close enough.

Mr. Peacock: Because a great number of speeches come out of that department. Mr. Pilkey's point I think is well taken if in fact,

as I believe from looking at the make-up of that text of the Prime Minister's speech in Scarborough North last week, it did come from the copy centre you just mentioned in the office of The Department of the Prime Minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It may have, and I assume that the speeches of other party leaders on matters of policy would be produced through their own caucuses in the same way.

Mr. Peacock: On matters of policy, right. We usually rely on our provincial office for campaigning material for election material. If we want to call the Prime Minister a flaming reactionary, chances are you will read of it in the New Democrat or the first or second piece of campaign literature we are putting out in this coming election campaign.

Is it the case that all of that equipment, I believe it is quite substantial in the copy centre as you referred to in The Department of Prime Minister, that is available to him without any vetting by The Department of Public Works for use either in his political capacity as Prime Minister or his chief of government capacity.

Hon. Mr. Auld: What is his non-political capacity?

Mr. Peacock: The Prime Minister, I will concede—and I think a lot of other people will—has a dual role. He is the head of the government; he is also political leader. It is conceded to him that—

Hon. Mr. Auld: He is in the same position as the other leaders.

Mr. Peacock: There is a slight difference, we are expectant and not yet fulfilled, and he is fulfilled as Prime Minister, he was anointed back in—

Mr. Chairman: What is the question you want to ask?

Mr. Peacock: The question is, can you give us the value of the equipment in the Prime Minister's copy centre?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed, in a fast estimate, about \$8,000.

Mr. Peacock: About \$8,000? And the copy centre would probably include some kind of offset printing machine?

Hon. Mr. Auld: One offset machine and a copier.

Mr. Peacock: The copier being the machine which makes the master plate? Would it contain a folding machine?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, all folding is done in central mailing.

Mr. Peacock: Would it contain—as suggested by the member for Windsor-Walkerville—a mechanical collator?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do not think so.

Mr. Peacock: What paper capacity does it have?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would assume quite a substantial one—

Mr. Peacock: So would I.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —because the Prime Minister's department does more than print his speeches. There is a great deal of paperwork in the cabinet office, the Prime Minister's department, all the operations related to the office of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Peacock: You are saying that the copy centre would also be used for the preparation of cabinet business? Reproducing documents for cabinet and so on?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I assume some legislation, for instance the agenda for cabinet is done on some other kind of—I do not know the technical name, but looking at it it looks like one of those things that you print on gelatin or you type on gelatin and—

Mr. Peacock: Right, when one of the departments using the four copy centres requires new equipment or replacement, does The Department of Public Works or Treasury Board give approval for that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would be in The Department of Public Works estimates.

Mr. Peacock: It would be part of the estimates?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We own the equipment and service it and charge the departments for the services we provide.

Mr. Peacock: May I ask, does The Department of Public Works own any of the equipment in what looks like a copy centre in the basement of the north wing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean here?

Mr. Peacock: Yes in the north wing of this building underneath the library, underneath

the first floor, outside the new member's lounge.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That may be under legislative services, but I think I can find this out for you. I am told we do not own it. I think it is probably owned by the caucus.

Mr. Peacock: The government caucus?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, and if so I assume that they purchased it.

Mr. Peacock: Could you let me know, Mr. Minister, whether The Department of Public Works owns any of the equipment there and—I do not know whether the question is appropriate to you or not—whether that equipment is available to all members?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am told that we do not own it.

Mr. Peacock: You do not own it, so therefore it is only available to members of the government caucus?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That I could not tell you.

Mr. Peacock: I understand the capacity there is something about one million copies a month, so that would be a very sizable quantity of equipment. None of it is owned by The Department of Public Works? None of it is financed by The Department of Public Works?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If it were used to capacity I suppose that would be a lot.

Mr. Pilkey: It is running all the time, 24 hours a day.

Mr. Peacock: Therefore it would likely be financed entirely out of the appropriation that is afforded to the government caucus by the government?

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Peacock: It is exactly the same for a member of whatever party, \$6,750.

Mr. Pilkey: Exactly the same.

Mr. Peacock: The member for York West raised a point for me about the Queen's Printer's bookshop. The last time I read the kind of reasoning the member gave in answer to the member for Windsor-Walkerville about pollution control and jobs, was in the nature of a threat that we would lose jobs by enforcing high standards of pollution abatement on the pulp and paper industry. I read that in the newsletter of the Kimberly Clark

Pulp and Paper Company on the shelves of the bookstore of the Queen's Printer on Bay Street at Grosvenor. Is the Queen's Printer bookshop still handling the newsletters of Kimberly Clark and other pulp and paper companies in the Province of Ontario?

Mr. Chairman: Item 2.

Mr. Peacock: Mr. Chairman, is the Queen's Printer's bookshop still handling the newsletters of the pulp and paper companies?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that we do not think so, but we will find out.

Mr. Peacock: I would respectively urge the minister that any that are there find their way to the shredder or whatever other means of disposal he is using for the surplus copies that are printed for the government of Ontario, because that particular newsletter of February, 1970, I believe, was a strident attack on the pollution abatement policies of the government of Ontario. It had no place on the bookshelves of the Queen's Printer's bookshop.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I must say that that shows we are pretty generous.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2.

Mr. Peacock: Next time we will get you a copy of the NDP programme for Ontario.

Mr. MacKenzie: Item 2 embodies the Queen's Printer, I gather, from all that is being said here. This amount in the estimates for 1971-1972, is this \$500,000 sufficient to finance the Queen's Printer and all the other things for one whole year? That is the full extent of its operation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You will notice that there are a great many of the services provided by the Queen's Printer that are charged back to the operating departments.

Mr. MacKenzie: Going on a bit further, Mr. Chairman, the Queen's Printer has a retail outlet and they take in certain amounts, does this go into the general revenue of the province?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Under the financial administration, I think that is where it has to go.

Mr. MacKenzie: This amount then does not represent the difference between what they take in and what has to go out for the whole thing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is the gross figure.

Mr. MacKenzie: What is the total cash flow in the Queen's Printer?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That would be that amount of \$1,236,000. That also includes the revenue from the Ontario Gazette.

Mr. MacKenzie: The recovery of \$1,236,000, this is from other departments, but the thing I mentioned—

Hon. Mr. Auld: And from the Ontario Gazette.

Mr. MacKenzie: The thing I mentioned, Mr. Chairman, was the retail outlet, the store through which you sell to the public. How much do you sell to the public?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the revenue from the bookstore—I have not got the total figure here—but it runs around \$1,200 a week.

Mr. MacKenzie: That is \$62,000 a year recovery, and on that basis is the operation a loss or a profit?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think there is a net profit, but of course there are a great many things in addition to the retail function, it is a service function to the public for a great many pre-publications and information generally.

Mr. Peacock: Can you tell us what the store is losing? If it takes in \$62,000-\$62,400, what is it costing them to operate it for a year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I could not give you a breakdown because I do not think I have any figures that indicate for instance the space, the lighting and water and so on. There is another problem too; we are not exactly sure at this point in time what the costs to the other department are of the books which we sell. We know what we get for them, but we are not as yet in a position to say what the cost to the other departments was.

Mr. MacKenzie: Do I understand then that you do sell books from other departments and you supply the labour to do the selling—the labour and the space and all the rest of it—without any recovery from the other departments?

Hon. Mr. Auld: And the other department gets no recovery either because the funds go into the consolidated revenue fund.

Mr. MacKenzie: Then the most we can say at the present time, Mr. Chairman, is the operation of the Queen's Printer retail book store is an unknown quantity? We just do not know and we cannot find out?

Mr. Chairman: Item 2, carried. On item 3.

Mr. Spence: I see this allotment is considerably down.

Hon. Mr. Auld: On vehicle—

Mr. Spence: Vehicle repair and truck services. The estimate is that you will spend \$61,500.—is that it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In net—yes.

Mr. Spence: What are you doing? Are you leasing? Do you lease these vehicles? Is this less money being allotted this year than last year on account of leasing vehicles and trucks or do you do this?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the gross amount is down about \$5,000 but we are charging more for the service that we supplied to other departments back to them, which is more—

Mr. Spence: Did you charge that? So this is why it is down considerably this year from last year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is because, as I say, we are charging more back. But you have noticed from the general estimates the policy established by Treasury Board to charge back to departments—postage is one, for instance, that we talked about a while ago. We charge back to the departments services that are supplied to them by other departments.

Mr. Spence: On trucking services—do any of these trucks run on leaded gasoline, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Spence: You own them? Those are the department's own trucks?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, and the other departments own vehicles.

Mr. Chairman: Item 3. Carried?

Mr. B. Newman: On item 3, I wanted to ask the minister is he following not the recommendations but the idea of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Kerr) and putting anti-pollution devices

on some of his vehicles and equipping some of them so that they could run on propane?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have 17 running on propane at the moment and this year, as we replace some of the vehicles ready for trade-in, we will be installing more of this equipment. It has turned out to be very successful.

Mr. B. Newman: Very successful; that is good to hear. I hope the minister continues.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are in touch with some of the other jurisdictions—California is one that comes to mind—in getting their observations and experiences.

Mr. B. Newman: Has it been economically viable to do this?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Very good.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It costs about \$570 to convert a vehicle. It would appear that the savings in maintenance—spark plugs and oil and a few things like that—pay for this in perhaps a year's operation. And of course when you trade in the vehicle you replace the original carburetor and keep the propane equipment.

The only problem there is in getting supplies of propane for vehicles that travel all over the province, although this is improving.

Mr. B. Newman: The Minister of Energy and Resources Management made mention that they were all right for short hauls within the city.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The reason for the short haul is that there are some places where you cannot get the tank filled.

Mr. B. Newman: Right; so you are proceeding with that and intend to accelerate that programme.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is right.

Mr. Chairman: Item 3, carried. Item 4, telephone services.

Mr. MacKenzie: Could you tell us, Mr. Chairman, in this amount that we are talking about—salaries and wages \$406,700—is that the switchboard employees or maintenance, or what does that embody? Is that all the civil service?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It includes the switchboard operators of which there are about 28 to 30

and the installers who work on our own inter-communication systems.

Mr. Chairman: Item 4 carried?

Mr. MacKenzie: Three million for transportation and communication under telephone services. What does the transportation represent?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you looked at the heading in the back of the book, that is mainly told.

You will notice at the bottom there are recoveries from other departments of about \$1 million. That item—\$3.5 million roughly—includes the Centrex system here in Queen's Park, the leased lines which the province has around the province—

Mr. MacKenzie: To the various cities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —and all the long distance calls of other departments, which we charge back to them.

Mr. MacKenzie: But the transportation—is this just different usage of the word transportation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, this is a heading which has been worked out for a number of items, as explained in the back of the estimates. It includes travelling expenses, relocation and expenses of public servants, expenses of moving office furniture and equipment, cost of transportation of goods, mailing costs, communication costs, telephone, telegram and data communication.

Mr. MacKenzie: Does this also include the use of shortwave radio?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can stand corrected, but it would only include any shortwave radio used by Public Works, and I think the only place we have that is in the elevators.

Mr. Chairman: Item 4? The hon. member for Oshawa.

Mr. Pilkey: Mr. Chairman, the increase in the government lines, I think, was an excellent move on behalf of the government, because now we have the opportunity to use them. Previously we did not, as you know.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We reckon that this has reduced the long distance tolls by about \$250,000.

Mr. Pilkey: The question I was going to ask is did one compensate for the other?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I will read you the report:

In December 1970 the intercity network was expanded from 62 circuits to 163, based on traffic studies made jointly by us and Bell. The estimated benefits being derived from the 163 circuit expansion are as follows.

The traffic-carrying capacity of the network has increased by 300 per cent, the grouping of lines having a greater effective capacity than the total of individual lines.

In other words, three lines will carry five times as many calls as three individual lines. One and one makes three, sort of.

The cost per circuit mile has been reduced from \$2.84 to \$2.25. The service level standards has been increased to 90 per cent.

That is, nine times out of ten that you call the line, it is free at the busiest hours of the day.

A notable reduction is being experienced in long distance toll charges. After subtracting the rental cost to the intercity network expansion, a net direct cost saving of about \$250,000 can be predicted this year in addition to the other benefits.

Mr. Pilkey: I just wanted to say I think it was an excellent idea. I think that the 90 per cent level should be maintained by carefully watching this whole process because—and I only say it as a member—before it was just literally impossible to get a call through during the day to my riding. Now that it is possible, and the long distance tolls have just gone down dramatically. I just wondered what the whole programme—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do check it from time to time to do traffic studies to see two things—that we are keeping this efficiency and that there is not flagrant misuse or abuse of the service.

Mr. Pilkey: There is just one very small problem, that I experience anyway, and I do not know if it is possible to rectify it or not. This is that the odd time you will be talking to an individual through the government lines and all of a sudden you are cut off, just like that. It is a little embarrassing at times, and I just wondered what goes wrong in that kind of a situation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You get an accidental disconnect because I assume somebody reaches over to somewhere else on the board

and pushes a switch or pulls a wire or something.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Kent.

Mr. Spence: I just was going to give credit to the minister for the improvement in getting the open line now.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wish the hon. member for Grey-Bruce was here; I do not take the credit but the staff does.

Mr. Spence: Well, there was tremendous improvement.

Mr. Chairman: Item 4 carried. On item 5.

Mr. B. Newman: Under government incentives, Mr. Chairman, may I ask the minister if the Robert Simpson Company are still the prime supplier of materials and supplies as far as the exhibits are concerned?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I believe that they are.

Mr. B. Newman: Is that not up on a tender basis or a bid basis at all, for the provision of all of these supplies?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In that sort of thing, where you are getting exhibits, I do not know of any effective way of calling for bids because the standard of work has a great bearing on it. I think we are aware of the design people, or the model makers, or the exhibit people's general charges. We are satisfied that the work that is being done for us is being done at the standard we want at a reasonable price.

Mr. B. Newman: It does seem strange to me that in the public accounts from the years 1969 and 1970 on \$481,000 worth of expenditures, \$346,000 went to the Simpson company.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That was for one single integrated exhibit at the CNE.

Mr. B. Newman: I would assume that that would be primarily the reason for that expenditure, but I just wondered why, possibly, some other concern could not be given some part of that action.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would be very difficult to divide an exhibit amongst various manufacturers, a single integrated exhibit.

Mr. B. Newman: I would assume then likewise that it would be primarily the provision of materials and so forth that could be provided by other concerns, if it were on a bid

basis? If there is a chance to save some money—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not know how you could do that. We had one firm design it and then we called for bids from the people to construct it.

Mr. B. Newman: And the Simpson company won that. Is that it?

An hon. member: That is all right.

Mr. Chairman: Item 5.

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering, there is quite a large increase in the amount carried in the estimates this year for this particular item, from \$346,000 up to \$795,000. Can you tell us what it is for?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You see that again relates to the CNE. You may recall that the exhibit, which I think we called "The Ontario Dream," was built for two years and the only costs last year were for certain refurbishing and repainting. This year it is a new exhibit. It was not worthwhile to run the same thing three years, both from the point of view of having something that would interest people and also from the point of view of further refurbishing costs.

Mr. MacKenzie: Then this, in the breakdown for this item, which shows as \$722,000 as being services. Does this mean outside services that the member for Windsor-Walkerville was talking about—that you are going to the Robert Simpson Company to buy this at \$722,000? Is this for the one item, "The Ontario Dream" replacement, or for something else?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, this includes the CNE, the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition at Thunder Bay, the Central Canada Exhibition in Ottawa, the Western Fair at London, the year-round exhibition at Niagara Falls, and miscellaneous displays at various locations, including the Christmas decorations at Queen's Park. Is that—

Mr. MacKenzie: Yes, that is getting close to it.

Mr. B. Newman: Why would that Niagara Falls exhibit not be charged against the Niagara Parks Commission?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Because it is operated on behalf of the province, rather than the Parks Commission. The Parks Commission have

their own budget I assume and they do other things of their own.

Mr. B. Newman: It just strikes me as being strange that, although listed in public accounts it is for the Niagara Parks Commission. I would assume that they would have to stand the bill there. They are not a money-losing organization.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, but I think you have seen the exhibit, have you not? It really does not talk about the Niagara Parks Commission.

Mr. B. Newman: I cannot recall. I have seen exhibits in Niagara Falls; whether that is it or not I do not know.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The exhibit does not talk about the Niagara Parks Commission and their attractions. It talks about the government and the province as a whole.

Mr. B. Newman: But it is still an attraction though.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think a big enough one to charge for.

Mr. Chairman: Item 5.

Mr. MacKenzie: This \$722,000, Mr. Chairman, is going to various things for exhibits. I am wondering if you could give us a breakdown between what we might call repeat or temporary exhibits and what we might call exhibits which are basically a capital investment, which will be exhibits year in and year out. How much of this \$722,000 is lost after a year or two and how much is retained year after year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well let me give you the general breakdown. The CNE in total is \$632,000. The other main exhibit, which is on a circuit that goes to the other fairs I mentioned, is \$40,000; Niagara Falls is \$22,000; Queen's Park is \$7,000, and the miscellaneous is \$6,000 giving a total of \$75,000.

Then for our own staff of three, plus some casual, some unclassified personnel, \$44,000; and the remainder of that transportation and communication, \$5,000; office maintenance \$2,000; allowance for post-exhibition expense and planning for the following year, staff transfers into exhibits and contingencies, \$37,000.

Mr. MacKenzie: Then \$632,000 of the \$722,000 is going to the CNE right here in Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Auld: And of that, if you would like to break down that, \$100,000 is for building repairs and maintenance to the structure which the CNE owns but of which we have sort of life tenancy. The 20 departmental exhibits, at \$20,000 apiece, which is a total of \$400,000. Then something which I hope you will not ask me to explain, thematic environment, allowing \$5,000 escalation, \$70,000.

I think I can explain that. It is sort of tying all these things together and some of the things you cannot charge to a specific department.

The design fees, which I mentioned, are \$32,000; \$5,000 for the theatre which is there; \$5,000 for publicity; and for our own exhibit the attendants and sort of the operation of the exhibit, which is \$20,000.

Mr. MacKenzie: Of the 20 exhibits at \$20,000 each, are there any of those which are going to be available year after year, or do they have to be replaced each year?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is not intended at this moment that we will be using those same exhibits at the CNE next year. I am afraid I cannot tell you what amount of these exhibits is in effect salvageable and will be used by those departments for other events where they may be having conferences or staff meetings or something like that.

Mr. MacKenzie: So as far as you know you think there is a percentage of them which are one-shot affairs?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Item 5 agreed to.

Item 6, stationery and office supplies. Item 6 agreed to.

Item 7, general supply services. Item 7 agreed to.

Item 8, purchasing services.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, under this vote—I know it has been discussed under the first vote considerably—how many employees have you in central purchasing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Fourteen in purchasing services.

Mr. Pilkey: I do not know if this question has been asked, Mr. Chairman, but what is the government's projected savings? As I recall, when it was announced in central purchasing it was estimated at \$10 million. Now I recognize you have not achieved that,

but has there been any financial data available as to what savings have accrued as a result of central purchasing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The one that comes to mind significantly is the purchase of punch cards for computers. On this one for 1970-1971, where we do this in bulk rather than having departments purchase their own requirements, the user departments would have paid \$311,044 for their total form requirements. Under the new plan the total cost for the same volume of forms was calculated at \$139,777, for an overall cost benefit under this plan of \$171,267.

I mentioned a while ago that we buy certain kinds of paper in bulk where there is a large requirement, after a public tender. I do not have the type of paper; the member for Windsor West is not here and I think he is the only printing expert. In supply of printing papers to all user departments and agencies of the province, a total saving of \$75,829 has been achieved under the plan.

Office machines, Xerox customer utilization plan, all the Xerox copy machines in the user departments were bought under one plan. All individual contracts were consolidated in one and the new plan resulted in an annual saving of \$78,105.

In office furniture, for instance—and this is an estimate because we are comparing the period 1964-1965 to 1969-1970, but we have calculated the cost escalation of these kinds of office furniture, these are standard things, single pedestal desk, double pedestal desk and a typist desk—a saving of just a shade under 30 per cent in dollar volume, about \$60,000.

Mr. Pilkey: I just want to follow up on that. Let me put it this way: It seems to me that some departments of government would be very reluctant to participate in such a programme. Do not ask me why but it would be my assumption that they would be rather reluctant to participate in such a programme. Now is the government—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps totally, but I think our experience has been that in many things the other departments are anxious to participate because it means a saving to them.

Mr. Pilkey: Well if they are anxious to participate, then why has this programme really not got off the ground? The government made the announcement—I just forget when it was, but it was sometime ago. It just appears to me that it has not really come

to fulfilment at this point in time and I do not understand why it has not, except that I can only assume that there is some reluctance in the other departments to co-operate in such a venture.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I do not think so, but I think it is fair to say there is some reluctance on the part of some other departments as to how effective it will be for all their requirements. I think we have to prove to them that we are going to be efficient and that they will not be held up. The spread-out nature of the operations of many departments is such, as we discussed yesterday briefly, that the idea of central supply, rather than physically centrally purchasing something here and then shipping it off to Kenora, is something that takes a little working out. In other words, to develop an economic source of supply for departments whose operations are spread around the province takes a little time.

Mr. Pilkey: I appreciate that, but when the government made the announcement that this would generate a \$10-million saving, as I recall, surely they did not make that statement without some prior analysis of where the savings could be made and where central purchasing would become a valid proposition. With great respect, Mr. Minister, I suspect—well, not suspect; I know—that the government has not achieved that plateau at this point in time.

Let me ask you another question then. How long do you think it will take the government, in view of their analysis that they would be able to save \$10 million, how long will it take them to assimilate all of the departments so that we can generate this kind of saving?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I really cannot answer that question. I think we can show that thus far it would be in excess of \$2 million a year. In fact, I used that figure in a speech in Thunder Bay a while ago after going into some of these figures—without going into all of them. One of the problems is to establish all the requirements of all the various goods and services that all the departments require in all parts of the province. I do not know what the list would be—would there be 10,000 or 20,000 items? There are just thousands of items.

Here again it is a matter of balance. I suppose that if we were allotted 20 more bodies, we could do it a little faster. On the other hand, what do you do with those 20

bodies once you have the plan working? You have to make some sort of a balance, and in some cases it is not just a question of bodies. If we had all the funds for the people we thought we might require, there would still be the question of establishing these quantities and specifications.

For instance—again just off the top of my head, and I am sure we have run into this—there may be four departments that are using similar things but not the same and feel that they have used this type of equipment for a long time and they do not want to change. But we might find that if they were to make a slight change in their specifications, we could make a saving. That means a certain amount of discussion and negotiation with the operating department, because I do not think you would want Public Works, as we discussed yesterday, in the position of saying: "We think this is the kind of x-ray machine that The Department of Health should use."

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, just one question. How many millions of dollars of goods, equipment or supplies did you buy for this cost of last year? Although you were not the minister—I realize this—you bought very little with the amount of staff you had; in fact, it is not getting off the ground.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean in terms of dollars?

Mr. Spence: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, you want to remember that all the purchases that are made through or with the aid of central supply and purchasing are not shown in our estimates. The only things are the things like paper that we physically handle and then charge back to the department—for instance, office desks and so on. The only desks that we buy, as I said last night, are the ones that we put in a new building and turn over to the operating department. I do not think I could give you a figure. As I said a while ago, we are analysing these big totals in the back of the book, because we want to have that information. But it would be very difficult—I just could not give you that figure at present.

Mr. MacKenzie: Is it fair to say, Mr. Minister—

Mr. Chairman: It is 1 o'clock now. If there are not very many more questions, is it agreeable that we finish up? Perhaps we can finish up in a very short time.

Mr. MacKenzie: I have just got a very short question. Is it fair to say, Mr. Minister, so far as your central purchasing efforts to date are concerned, that it has cost us money and we have not saved any?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I would say if you want to take a look at the salary figure which between general supply services and purchasing services adds to about \$375,000; I think I indicated a few minutes ago, that just in a few items we saved that.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman, do you—

Mr. B. Newman: I will pass, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: You will pass. Item 8, carried? Vote 1803 carried?

Vote 1803 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: This completes the estimates of The Department of Public Works.

The committee adjourned at 1:00 o'clock, p.m.

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, May 17, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 17, 1971

The committee met at 3:25 o'clock, p.m. in committee room No. 1; Mr. O. F. Vileeneuve in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Mr. Chairman: We have a quorum here now. We will proceed with the estimates of The Department of Health. Usually we invite the minister to make a few remarks, if he would care to do so.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): Mr. Chairman, I was not going to present any general overview of the department. I will deal with questions as they arise and perhaps comment generally at the end of the exercise itself. There is one thing, though, that would help the department from the point of view of avoiding waste of talent and that would be, Mr. Chairman, if you and the members could stick fairly closely to the items as they run on the vote. If we can follow the items fairly religiously it means that so far as the staff are concerned I can leave some of them to concern themselves with the business of the province while others are here and not thereby have an enormous attendance all the time, not knowing which subjects might be dealt with.

My hope would be that we could go through it item by item. Main offices, for instance, as the estimates show cover not only the office as such but the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation and the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation and, as the members can see, a spectrum of other activities than those you would perhaps expect as purely main office.

As I say, it would be a great help if we could stick as closely to the items as possible and then I could relieve some of the staff from attending until their turn comes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister, I think that is only fair. We all realize this is a huge department and you have a great deal of personnel. If we follow through in orderly fashion there is no reason we cannot meet with these requirements and do a very satisfactory job.

The Parcost and council of health are under the main office estimates, Mr. Ferrier, and you were inquiring about that. We are now on vote 701, departmental administration programme.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Chairman, although the minister himself has not given a leadoff statement, I do not think that precludes other members from saying a few words in general on the administration of The Department of Health. I want at the outset to say that we will try to comply with the minister's request and try to keep our remarks within the bounds of the estimates that are before us.

However, you have been here sufficiently long, Mr. Chairman, and so has the minister, to know that these estimates do not always lend themselves to analysis in a way that would keep one solely within the limits of the caption over the estimates. I would, therefore, ask your indulgence if we should stray or appear to stray, because in most cases it is only to come in through other than the front door.

I find that in most cases where members are interrupted by the Chair with a request to stick to the estimates before a committee or before the House, more time is taken up with an argument whether or not the member is on the subject matter than is taken up with getting back to it. In most cases, if the Chairman restrains himself for another 30 or 40 seconds, the member makes clear to the Chairman why he is saying what he is saying and the point he is trying to lead to and usually it ends up being on the point under discussion.

But I know you to be a forebearing chairman—a patient one—and I am sure that we will not be distracted by the continuous bang of the gavel, and we will do our utmost to expedite matters.

Now Mr. Chairman, this is the second year in a row I have had the experience of speaking on the estimates of The Department of Health when the minister has not seen fit to give to the committee a report of his operation of the department. In fairness, I should point out that in both instances the ministers

were new to that department. Perhaps in all fairness we should not expect an hon. minister under those circumstances, just having assumed a portfolio to give a report of what the department is doing, because it would be nothing but hearsay evidence insofar as he was concerned. We could hardly make him responsible or answerable for what has taken place in that department prior to his tenure. We will try to do the best without the words of wisdom that would normally flow from the hon. gentleman who now occupies that portfolio.

The fact remains that it seems incongruous that Ontario, the richest province in Canada, with a provincial income twice that of many other provinces and indeed close to that of all the other provinces put together, still must charge the highest premium for Medicare. The poorer the province, it seems, the lower the premium.

It is all very well to say that indigent people in this province have their premiums subsidized. Unfortunately, that statement is only a half truth. The subsidy extends only to medical attention—to doctors' bills—but not to hospital bills. From time to time we have been led to believe that all the services would be combined and that hospitalization and Medicare would be treated as the single entity they ought to be. Such hints and promises, however, have not come to pass.

This afternoon, after the minister made his statement in the House touching on the policy for extended care facilities in nursing homes and home care, I looked over the shoulders of the television and radio media, listening to the questions put to the hon. minister and the answers that he was giving with reference to his statement. I must say that in an unguarded moment the minister did leave the definite impression that this was supposed to be the forerunner of a combined premium.

Perhaps the minister should have the people available to him to check, because certainly his statement, as it appears in the release, does not live up to that same indication.

What I am trying to say is that the Medicare premiums are subsidized to the degree that if a person cannot pay all or part of a premium, the balance of his premium, in an indirect way, comes out of consolidated revenue. In other words, the taxpayers of the Province of Ontario pick it up.

This, for some reason unbeknown to those of us who sit in the opposition, does not apply

to OHSC. There a person is either an indigent and welfare picks up his premium, or he is compelled to pay his hospital premium. There is no in-between. It seems that this is going to be carried on in home care.

What strikes me is that a very responsible member of the hon. minister's own party, when he was chairman of the health committee as it was then—the standing committee on health—made a recommendation that there should be one entity which would provide all the health services in the Province of Ontario, that there should be one premium. I am afraid that he was rather harshly dealt with. I rather suspect that he would have been the Health minister today had he played his cards, not according to his convictions but according to the pattern expected of him. He has been elevated to the executive council but without a portfolio.

Now this is not to knock the incumbent, Mr. Chairman. It is still too early in the day to pass judgement on his performance as Health minister. So far, he has been honest with us across the floor and not at all evasive, certainly not to the degree of the previous occupant of this office. Frankly, he seems anxious to come to grips with the portfolio and to give of his best in it.

So Mr. Chairman, through you, I should like to extend to him the usual courtesies on such an occasion and wish him well and wish the people of Ontario well in his hands. I hope sincerely that they will prove to be competent hands.

A lot has been demanded of the department, and the department has not always lived up to its expectations. I think the people of Ontario have been the ones to suffer and I trust that we shall, in fact, see a new way so far as supplying facilities in the matter of health to the people of Ontario is concerned.

I would point out, however, that he is the second layman, Mr. Chairman, to hold this position since the member for Ontario (Mr. Dymond) resigned. It is nice to see the hon. member for Ontario sitting opposite looking so relaxed and healthy, if I may add that. I wish him long life and lots of health now that he is able to sit back and enjoy, perhaps, the fruits of his long term in the Legislature. Surely he must be able to sit back and relax and not have to be right in the bearpit fighting all the time. At any rate, he looks a little better for being out of the firing line, and I hope he stays that way.

As I said, this minister is the second layman to take over. When the first layman took over

the then Premier (Mr. Robarts) expressed the opinion that such an appointment would permit an objective look at the professions, particularly the doctors, without fear or favour. Perhaps that is beginning to happen now. I certainly hope so.

The recent Ontario Medical Association conference shows that the doctors certainly need to be taken down a peg or two in some areas. I think the minister, in this particular respect, may have come across questions that he put to the Ontario Medical Association that were rather interesting. It is also interesting to note that when the hon. minister was speaking to the press earlier today, before this committee started, that is after the House moved from the question period, he was asked whether these were rhetorical questions or whether they were charges. As my memory serves me, Mr. Chairman, he said they were neither charges nor were they questions, that in fact they were more of a recitation of what they had discovered to have occurred in the past. Am I correct?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The term I used in the House was "show cause."

Mr. Ben: Meanwhile I am speaking of the questions and answers to the press. I would just like, at this time, to go over these questions, Mr. Chairman.

The first question was, Why are claims reaching OHSIP which do not represent the services provided? The minister, Mr. Chairman, has not, to date, expanded on that. I am raising it now to give his staff time to have the answers to these questions, because I have asked, What or which doctors billed OHSIP for services that were not provided? In other words, What account was paid that did not represent the services provided? Can the minister give us examples of those?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The problem there is that the statute under which we operate protects, and was designed to protect, the confidentiality of information, both from the patient's point of view and from the doctor's point of view. The statute itself would not permit me to give the member a direct answer saying, Dr. Brown charged so much for attending on Mrs. Smith.

Two things can be done, and one is for me to give statistical information which would give the hon. member to some extent the degree of the seriousness of whatever the problem may be. The other thing that I can do under the statute is refer this information to the professional body in charge, which in

this case would be the College of Physicians and Surgeons, for investigation. In my interpretation of the Act it ties my hands for good or ill insofar as giving the member that particular patient-doctor information.

Mr. Ben: Let us put it this way. Perhaps I should not have asked for the name of the doctor, but I take exception to another part of the minister's statement and that is that he could not divulge what service was given.

This particular instance, which the minister is alleging, is that doctor A billed patient B for service called C, but in fact did not render that service. That is a fraud.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It may and it may not be. It may be a mistake.

Mr. Ben: All right! At any rate, I think the House is entitled to know what occurred. We may not be able to ask you to tell us what service Mrs. Brown received from Dr. Jones. But I believe that as guardians of the pocket-books of the people of the Province of Ontario we are entitled to ask you, Were there any services that Dr Jones charged to Mrs. Brown that he did, in fact, not perform for Mrs. Brown?

This is the sum and substance, I take it, of your charge. Why are claims reaching OHSIP which do not represent the services provided?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not in my discretion, nor is it within my power, to go against the statutes which of course the Legislature enact. The member can demand these questions certainly, but my responsibility as minister is to see I act only within the four corners of the statute. My interpretation of the statute is that it is not broad enough to permit the kind of questions that the member would want answered as outlined in his last example.

Mr. Ben: Would the minister refer this committee to the section of the statute to which he is referring and also to the rules of the House which would tie the hands of this House in asking these questions, or I should say mute the tongue of this House to prohibit us eliciting from you these particulars?

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, should debate not come later?

Mr. Ben: The member is right. We have to have an opening statement.

Mr. Chairman: We are going to have an opening statement and not engage in debate at this time.

Mr. Ben: All right! These are the next questions I am going to be asking the minister and to which he might prepare answers.

Why do claims for general assessments and reassessments constitute an increasing proportion of office practice, replacing the lower fee item of office visits? I think all the general members know that general assessment is where a complete history is taken of the patient. It is usually an initial visit. The charge is \$15, and for a reassessment \$10, but just for a general office visit the prescribed fee is usually \$6.

Why are unconscionable claims submitted for detention time? Detention time is a doctor waiting around during a period of crisis. I would like to know what you term to be unconscionable detention time, which to me is a very difficult question to answer. It is a question of absolute discretion on the part of the doctor, and to me just to be sitting around is an unbearable situation.

Why do you permit physicians to have an interest in laboratories? You should put that question to them, because your predecessor (Mr. Wells) was questioned thoroughly in this House. I believe the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) raised the point. Why does your department permit physicians to have an interest in laboratories? We want to know why you are passing the buck to the College of Physicians and Surgeons or the Ontario Medical Association, when we on this side of the House are asking you to prohibit such a practice, and nothing was done about it.

By the way, henceforth, when I refer to you please understand it is the department I am criticizing, since you were not around.

Why do significantly greater use and cost of laboratories services arise in circumstances where physicians have a financial interest in the laboratories being used? We try to tell you that is an inevitable result. We ask that this relationship be banned in the future, but nothing happens.

Now you are trying to pass the buck to the physicians, whereas I believe the fault lies here.

How can some physicians earn a high income when providing a service to a minimal number of patients? We should all like to know that, especially those of us in other professions.

How is it that services provided by interns and residents are sometimes billed in the name of a supervising physician who has not been involved in the case of the care of the patient? We would like to have an answer to this question, Mr. Minister.

Why has your department not prosecuted those who are doing it? Because in this very room last year, when the estimates were up, we brought this to your attention, stating that physicians were billing OHSIP for services performed by interns and residents and charging full rates. Why did you not do something to stop it? What in essence you were doing was giving the medical profession a carte blanche to continue to do the very thing of which you complain.

How is it that services provided by supporting personnel are billed by certain physicians at the physicians' fee level? This again was something that we raised last year. We asked you to stop this; you refused, you neglected to stop it and now you are blaming the physicians for doing something that you actually countenanced. As I say, it was almost a carte blanche—"Go ahead and do it, boys. The opposition raised hell about it, but we do not intend to do anything about it." Which is like a green light to a kid; "Continue what you are doing."

These are the questions you could answer for us later. Now I do not know where it is going to come up, whether this should come under policy under the first vote. This is a sort of matter of policy; the minister took it upon himself to raise this issue outside the House. I would think it comes under vote 701, but I am not going to quarrel.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 704.

Mr. Ben: The Chairman says it comes under vote 704. There are a few other points arising from that conference, but I will wait until 704 and we can probably deal with them all at once.

Even though the minister has only assumed his portfolio, I think his Waterloo could well be his failure to come to grips with the essentials of the integration of nursing homes into the Medicare scheme. The postponement for one year to me is totally unjustifiable and the deterrent charge of \$3.50 for those using these beds will have the opposite effect to that intended in cases of indigents not covered by pension.

Let me explain what is likely to happen.

The minister knows as well as I do that many doctors, acting out of compassion, have

hitherto kept chronic patients in active treatment beds when all that was needed was simple care because they knew there was no care waiting on the outside which the patient could afford. Now that moral compulsion, that compassionate urge will be gone, and the discharge from active treatment beds will assume its proper rate. How are they going to cope with it?

The indigents will find no peace of mind in the nursing homes as they pile up this \$105-a-month, \$1,300-a-year debt—and that is not sufficient to excite compassion anymore, it seems! It is simply going to drive to ruin the ones with pride or who tend to self-sufficiency.

When the statement was first made about the \$3.50 a day, many people—even this one—were inclined to say, “Well, that is not much—\$3.50 a day. Those on supplementary old age benefits will be able to pay \$105 a month and still have about \$25 left for comfort. A dollar a day, but that is better than what they have been getting.”

But then it occurred to me that we consider everybody who is going to be using those nursing homes to be on old age assistance, and that is not so. Those who are on old age assistance, fine—let us be honest about it—they can manage.

As a matter of fact many of them would be grateful to get into a nursing home and say, “Here is \$105 out of my allowance from the federal government. I now have peace of mind. I have a good roof over my head, I get clean sheets, I get a warm room. I get good food. And if I am sick, they will give me some medicine and I even have \$25 or \$30 left to buy little comforts like cigarettes, if I smoke.”

I do not know how long they will be able to smoke at today's prices, but at least 90 per cent of them would probably be happy to get into such surroundings.

But what about those who are not on pension of some kind, who do not receive that \$135 a month—how are they going to manage without driving themselves into debt and more debt and more debt?

This is what this government did not consider at the time it imposed that \$3.10 limit. Furthermore, if you do not charge for a hospital bed why in heaven's name are you charging for a nursing home bed? Surely you are saving money, because as in the case of the Hospital for Sick Children where they charge \$100 a day for a bed now, it is con-

ceivable that a child could be put into a nursing home, although to the best of my knowledge I know of no home that is geared to take children on a nursing home basis rather than as one for disabled children.

But there are other hospitals that charge close to that \$100 fee—\$75 or so a day for a hospital bed. For the \$3.50 you might just keep them in that hospital a little longer.

I was listening to you answering the reporters' questions, and you said that when this programme is implemented it is not going to see a surplus of ambulatory or active treatment hospital beds materialize because of the backlog of people waiting to get into nursing homes. The truth of the matter is that many people just will not leave a hospital bed if they have a doctor with compassion, because he will know that they cannot afford the \$3.50 a day and he is going to keep them in that active treatment bed as long as he can.

If these nursing home beds are going to be occupied to the degree that the minister suggests, why has he put a freeze on issuing licences for these homes? I had a person from Hamilton tell me the skulduggery that was practised by the licensing authorities was something beyond comprehension. She called me to say: “Mr. Ben, where in the regulations does it say how big my dining room is supposed to be?” I said, “To the best of my knowledge and belief—” I was active in passing the regulations governing nursing homes during the tenure of the hon. member for Ontario—I said, “To the best of my knowledge and belief there is nothing that governs the size of a dining room in a nursing home.”

“Well, they have been giving me answers that I must have such-and-such size per bed, and I cannot find such-and-such a size per bed.” I said, “Look, you had better let me get the regulations.”

I got the regulations, and sure as blazes there is nothing in there to cover the size of a dining room in a nursing home; nothing prevented the woman from getting a licence. She has a fabulous nursing home but she had not got a licence. They started arguing about the size of this and they gave her two or three different answers. I said, “Look, you must have antagonized them, because to me this is just a deliberate stall. You had better hire yourself a lawyer and go and get a writ of mandamus and tell them to give you a licence.”

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): Hire yourself a lawyer!

Mr. Ben: Then it came out: You gave instructions—you must have given instructions or your department must have given instructions to impede the issuance of licences because you were coming out with this programme.

There are probably hundreds of people in this province who have tried to relieve the shortage of nursing home beds, who constructed nursing homes solely within the ambit of the regulations governing nursing homes, but they could not get a licence. They now stand with these white elephants awaiting the pleasure of your majesty or those under you.

How can you justify treating so shabbily the people of Ontario who try to come to the assistance of this department by providing these nursing homes? How in good conscience are you going to answer to the Almighty for that? How are your people going to answer for it—by simply saying the order came from on high?

The situation in Toronto is similar. One party let the licence lapse while they were repairing the nursing home to put it into the order or into the state required by the regulations; they got it all completed and they went and applied for a nursing home licence at the same location, in the same building, and they could not get it. They suspended them, they say, until Christmas time. Why? Are you going to start taking a survey to find out how many you need?

Surely before you came out with this programme you must have known how many there were and how many you would be needing. At least we have been telling you in this House how many there used to be each year. Figures vary from year to year, but we gave you a pretty accurate figure. We also gave you a pretty accurate figure of what would be needed.

I can hardly see the justification for your action. All I can say is that the way it was put in the budget, cheek by jowl with that tax incentive to industry to buy American production machinery—or as the minister at that time put it, machinery from Hong Kong, China, or Russia—all this government cares about is big business and nothing about the little people or the lower middle classes. These are the folks who seem to pay for everything these days—from Medicare to college tuition, which benefits are lavished on the militant poor and the arrogant rich; and the man in between, the one who works the hardest, he seems to be caught in the sand-

wich of virtue. It seems that these industrious and hitherto uncomplaining souls always have to pay their way and wait for the others while this government squanders the taxpayers' money.

I am going to have a good deal more to say about this topic when I take part in the debate on the estimates of The Department of Social and Family Services, and particularly about how we are actually breaking up these middle-class homes by offering substantial tax and other incentives for the children to run away from home, actually to run away and live in sin. But that is not your pill, Mr. Minister, I am not going to burden you with this.

Mr. Chairman: Stick to Health, please!

Mr. Ben: All right; I get sort of incensed at the way this government operates, to say the least.

But I am telling you one thing. There will be no mileage for the government in this \$3.50. It is going to rebound right into the face of this government. I think. Because resourceful people will try to stay in active treatment beds, as I said, at a greater cost to the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, because they will be ruined by the build up of a daily charge against modest means. They are going to take their vengeance at the polls, believe me they will.

Mr. Minister, I think we have to take a leaf from Sweden's book on hospitals. I spoke on this last year. We have a great many large hospitals right now on University Avenue and elsewhere and I think what we ought to do is add a couple of floors to each of them. These floors would be hotel floors.

There would be no treatment provided on these hotel floors, only board and lodging which I believe ought to be delivered at less than \$15 a day. Patients not requiring full service, only treatment of an out-patient nature—but treatment which is required on a regular basis too frequent to make the journey to and from their home practical—would be accommodated in these suites by the Ontario Hospital Services coverage.

They would use the elevators to seek treatment on the appropriate floors, or at the appropriate facility such as x-ray, massage, physiotherapy and so on. They could just slip on a dressing gown and descend to the appropriate floor in accordance with their treatment card and schedule. And I suggest that this would probably save millions of

dollars in hospital charges. These patients could even be looked after to the extent they desired by relatives, who would also be accommodated for this purpose.

They do this in Sweden, as I pointed out last year. For example, the wife or the daughter of someone receiving treatment could stay nearby, either for psychological reasons or the physical need to have somebody there.

There would be, of course, the usual hotel staff, and in emergencies doctors and nurses could be summoned from the hospital proper within minutes, just as they can be rallied to the emergency ward today. But there would be no nurses or doctors permanently stationed on these hotel floors and there would be no allowances made by the staff. In other words they definitely would not be wards, but the closest possible accommodation to the site of treatment.

Mr. Minister, I have been reading quite a bit generally on hospitals and I think everything points to the fact that eventually hospitals are going to be nothing but extensive treatment wards; this system is eventually going to come in. We are only going to use hospitals for emergency cases, or cases of extreme urgency or receiving extensive medical treatment.

As I said, I think that such a provision would do more than anything else to reduce the cost of OHSC while at the same time improving the quality of service beyond anything yet experienced in Ontario. Under this system, active treatment beds would be used for their intended purpose. They would not be just convenient way-stations staffed at too high a level and at too high a cost. Everyone in an active treatment bed would then really be under active treatment.

Considering the Swedish experiment has been mentioned a number of times, I am surprised this government has not given serious consideration to it. Capital costs would not be that high. Certainly it would be less than building to supply active treatment beds.

For example, while New Mount Sinai is going up across the road the minister might suggest to them: "Look we will subsidize or we will pay the capital costs for you to put on two more floors under this kind of scheme, because this would be a pilot project. We will see how it works, and since it is a pilot project we will pay the whole shot." I am sure they would be more than willing to give it a try.

Or the other alternative is to use the hospital that is presently there, the old wing, use that as a hotel setting for the three hospitals in the general vicinity—the Hospital for Sick Children, the Toronto General and Mount Sinai. I understand a tunnel is already completed that is going to connect the New Mount Sinai with the General and the Sick Children's; the old Mount Sinai could be used as a hotel residence for those that are coming there especially for extensive tests and the like.

I do hope the minister will give me his reaction to this proposal at the conclusion of these opening statements, and I hope that he will display the same open-mindedness and initiate some detailed research as to the costs and benefits of a pilot project of the type I have indicated.

I will try to keep this as short as I can. I have discussed nursing homes. Now Mr. Chairman, last year I drew to the attention of the minister's predecessor the system that was used in Russia. I remember I got some catcalls from some of the less enlightened members in the minister's own party. It seems that any time you mention anything Russian it is supposed to be inferior.

Mr. W. Hodgson: Be better when Trudeau comes back. He will bring you a full report.

Mr. Ben: But it was shameful how far behind Russia we were in some respects, especially in looking after the mentally ill. I pointed out that there is a higher bed-patient ratio in Russia than there was here, and more doctors available.

But specifically I dwelt on the use of the idea of a feldsher—a cross between a doctor and a nurse. Such persons of both sexes are widely employed in Russian hospitals and I suggested we ought to import this excellent idea into North America. These people have much more intensive training than North American nurses get but not as much as the fully qualified doctor.

They have proven invaluable in Russia and perhaps we ought to make a start in Ontario by strengthening the woeful medical service in our Arctic and far northern communities as well as in our inner cities, by the statutory recognition of this new class of healers with standards of training and internship spelled out.

And, Mr. Minister, I was very pleased to read that at a recent meeting of the College of Family Physicians—I think it was called—they also recommended that certain nurses

be given increased training. Some 50 doctors and nurses attended a two-day workshop called by the College of Family Physicians of Canada; it was held not too long ago. They felt that family doctors should have specially-trained nurses whose training would be paid for by the public.

Evidently this conference followed years of informal study and discussion about the need for physician associates or assistants, a fast-growing need in the USA, where they have former medical corps orderlies and specialists to call on. There is said to be a great number of these veterans of the war in Vietnam around. Perhaps we could even encourage them to emigrate to Canada and give them some special training here.

The fact remains they are making great use of the services of these medical specialists. I do not want to be misunderstood in using the words "medical specialists." They are not specializing in heart transplant or the like, but they are specialists in treatment of everyday ailments. Some of them were what we call medical corpsmen, and were used on the field of battle; others spent most of their time in the clinic on the base—you know what we used to call them when we used to go to sick bay, what was it?

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): MIR!

Mr. Ben: MIR! At any rate, these family physicians are suggesting we initiate some kind of a programme of this nature.

Incidentally, the conference also came to the conclusion that educational programmes should be standardized across Canada to permit nurses to move from one province to another, and that perhaps is something that should be given consideration.

I will have more to say on that when we get to that particular matter, but there is a shortage of doctors. We have to pay doctors sums out of proportion to the treatment rendered, and when I say this I mean that others could have given the same type of service at a lesser cost and probably just as efficiently if not more efficiently.

It is surprising, Mr. Chairman, that the infant mortality rate in European countries, where midwives are in general acceptance and where babies are delivered, in the main by midwives at home, rather than by doctors in hospitals, the mortality rate there is lower than here by a substantial amount.

In Britain there are 18.6 per 1,000 live births under one year of age, and in Canada there were 19.3 per thousand live births

under—I am sorry, in Britain there were 18.6 deaths per 1,000 live births under one year of age in 1969. In Canada—now this is Canada and you may think the figures came down last year—but anyway, in Canada there were 19.3 deaths per 1,000 live births under one year of age.

That to me is a substantial amount and I think we ought to ask the doctors' professional association to tell us why this should be so; why the infant mortality rate is higher when doctors are the delivering agents rather than with midwives. I think this is one function, that is delivery, that feldsher midwives could perform well, and where practicable at home too.

I recall that when I was last in hospital there was only one nurse on the floor who was qualified to take simple blood samples for analysis; what a ridiculous situation that was. Many people could not have their breakfast until after the blood sample was taken, but the nurse did not materialize until 9:30, 10 o'clock or 10:30. That is how I happened to find out that there was only one nurse who was permitted to take blood samples. I complained that the patients were sitting there without their breakfast when nurses were coming in and out and I was informed that those nurses were not qualified to take blood samples, that only certain nurses who were insured could take blood samples.

Now to me this is a real ridiculous situation and a situation that should be remedied. I recall when I was a youngster a female friend of mine at that time, a girl friend, was going through for a nurse and she practised on my arm and I managed to survive. I know some friends will say the shock was too much for me and I have not survived yet, but the fact is—

Mr. Chairman: Recess—the division bells are ringing.

Mr. Ben: I am sure the bells are ringing but I will not take much longer. As a matter of fact, I am going to end. Will that not make you happy?

Mr. Chairman: Yes that would. We will allow you a minute or two.

Mr. Ben: I want to take this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to sound a salutary warning to the medical profession, whose recent performance in my mind has shown a distasteful preoccupation with things monetary. I want to applaud the minister for his firm stand in telling the doctors they are either

in or out of Medicare, and I urge him not to back down from this position that double billing will not be permitted.

To me this is the first firm step that this government has taken in a long time. Once again, I warn him not to let the doctors anywhere near the OHSC or OHSIP or HIRB computer or files on individuals. Because if he does, we shall be right there, screaming civil liberty violations at the top of our lungs, and we shall have the people of Ontario 100 per cent behind us.

Let me say to the doctors, on behalf of our party: "The financial situation of your Medicare patients, doctors, is none of your business, and you will get such information over our dead bodies. There will be no suffix letters or coding on medical documents to indicate to the initiated that supplements are being paid. Your job, doctors, is to practise the healing arts. It is perfectly obvious to all that you are being already generously rewarded for pursuing this noble vocation. Do not turn your vocation into a mere trade by money-grubbing at every opportunity. You are doing all right. Leave things as they are or incur the wrath of righteous citizens the length and breadth of this province."

Mr. Chairman, all of us shall have a good deal more to say as the individual vote comes up, but as the bell is ringing I think I will just curtail my remarks now and I am sure we will all have a lot of questions to ask the minister later.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you. We will resume committee as soon as the division has been taken in the House.

The committee recessed at 4:18 o'clock p.m., and resumed at 4:45 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier, I think you wanted to make a statement for your party.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

They say the road to hell is paved with good intentions, and it is my intention not to speak too long; so I hope that I do not go to that warm place.

This is a time of excitement and interest in the whole health care field, where there are many challenges and developments likely to take place. I look forward to the debating of these estimates this year with the new Minister of Health.

Last year as we debated a number of the programmes and a number of the new types of care that have been suggested in the various reports, we did not seem to get a

very decisive answer on things; the former minister kept saying we are studying it and taking another look at it this year, I hope with the new minister we will get more decisive replies and perhaps he will be able to give us the direction in which the department is going in a number of these fields.

I gave a rather long speech on health care in my reply to the Speech from the Throne and I do not feel I have to really re-emphasize too much some of the things that were said there. I would like to deal briefly with four or five things, but I want to deal briefly as I say.

One area that has concerned me greatly is the whole field of dental care. I think a great many in our society today are not availing themselves of dental care because of the cost deterrent. I think many people will choose many other things before they will choose dental care because of the cost. One of the officials at the faculty of dentistry at the University of Toronto told me that when they opened their telephone lines each year they only need to keep them open a week and there are about 4,000 people a day calling in to make appointments for the students to work on them; this despite the fact that in this Toronto area there are dentists who have appointment books which are not completely filled. I think it points out that there are people who are deterred from dental care because they cannot afford it.

I think there is another barrier which has to be overcome, that of the ignorance of the importance of proper dental care. Some people only seek out a dentist when they are driven there by pain.

I think the various studies I have read and have mentioned point out that a great deal of the dental care that should be done on children and adults alike is not being done in the province today. Part of the reason is, I suppose, that there is a lack of distribution of dentists; but I do not think that this is the major problem that needs to be overcome if we are going to move into any kind of a dental care system in this province. I think the whole field of auxiliaries will have to be explored.

The Province of Quebec is now moving into a programme where, I think, they are beginning with the children up to age six, from three to age six, and are covering them on a dental care programme paid for by the state. Each year they intend to add another year of children. I know the dental association has been to the department about this

particular item. They have offered to move into it and, I think, are anxiously awaiting for a decision to be made.

There are certain members of the profession who do not want to see any change whatsoever, but there are progressive-minded and forward-looking leaders in the dental care field who are quite prepared to move to this step. As it would be phased in over a number of years, all the children would be covered up to the age of, probably 18, and financed by the state. We would have children who have had dental care themselves and who would see the importance of it in turn when they became parents and would make sure that their own children got the proper dental care that was needed.

At this point I think the province would be in a position to have a comprehensive dental care plan. I know that in answer to a question the minister said he is in favour of a dental care plan and that he would give consideration to this proposal by the dental association and that it is outlined by the report of the committee on healing arts. I urge upon him to move into this with despatch and not delay too much longer because it is very much needed.

If this decision is made it would mean that we will have to consider the various kinds of auxiliary personnel in the dental care field. The Wells report recommended an extension of the duties that could be performed by the hygienists in quite an expanded role. The problem there, of course, is that probably one dentist in six has available to him a hygienist. It has been pointed out, also, that by using these auxiliary personnel the productivity of the dentist himself increases greatly.

The auxiliaries in New Zealand and in the UK have both received fairly good reports from the bodies who have studied them and their work has been acceptable there. Whether we are prepared to have a pilot project on this particular kind of personnel, I do not know, but I think it is probably warranted. We could assess in our own jurisdiction whether these people could be used to treat the children and provide the expanded numbers of personnel which would be needed for a kind of dental care programme in this province. I certainly hope we can get consideration of that from this department.

There is a really poor dentist-to-patient relationship in many sections of the province. Programmes that have now been instituted have made it possible for more dentists to

go to the outlying areas, but in many respects I think it is only scratching the surface. We hear about the railway car dental services to some parts of northern Ontario. I am wondering if there might be a possibility of equipping a mobile truck of some sort with the proper equipment so that this kind of service could be employed for communities that may not be accessible to the main lines of the CN and the CPR. It is worth considering at any rate.

Recently the issue of the role of the dentist in the province has broken forth and there has been a great deal of discussion about this particular issue. It appears that dentures can be provided at a much lower rate than is being paid now to the dentist who takes the impressions and provides the prescription to the dental technician. It means that the consumers are paying a great deal more than they ought to. It means a number of welfare administrators who provide dentures for old age pensioners and other people on welfare have to pay a tremendous amount, and it means that they are limited in the number that they can provide, because of the high cost.

I personally agree with what the minister had to say. We need to have the health care personnel in the province licensed, so that they know what they can do and what they cannot do, and there must be regulations provided for them to work under, and to stipulate the kind of training they need. I think that is a wise move, but I really feel that in view of the savings that could be made and the fact that dentists are overworked now, there must be some way of resolving this problem and being able to allow denturists to provide services directly to the public.

I welcomed the announcement the minister made today on the nursing home plan of the province. I think that it has merit. I am concerned, like the hon. member for Humber, about the year's delay in its implementation. I am also equally concerned about the \$3.50 deterrent fee that has to be paid by those who will be residents or patients of nursing homes.

We expressed our dissatisfaction with this at the time the budget was brought down and we feel equally strongly about it today. I believe one of the reasons that homes have probably not been licensed with as much dispatch as we would perhaps like is that the minister feels there should be a standard to these homes; that they must measure up in certain degree. I must admit that I agree with him that this kind of facility must be of

a reasonable standard to provide the kind of care that is necessary and to provide the safety features and other aspects, especially when the province is going to be, I suppose, examining their budgets to set a per diem rate and so forth.

However, I wonder why there has been a delay in moving patients from the Ontario Hospitals to the homes for special care. I understand this has been causing a backlog in certain of the Ontario Hospitals. Not being able to move certain patients into these homes means the programme in the various wards and the levels of the wards have been sort of cluttered up. Certain people who should be admitted cannot be admitted because of the delay in moving the patient through the various procedures because a patient cannot be discharged at the one end. It has slowed the process right down.

It means, I suppose, that people are kept in Ontario Hospitals rather than being discharged to homes for special care, and I think this probably costs extra to the province. I wonder if the minister would deal with the reasons for this freeze on moving the patient from the Ontario Hospitals to the homes for special care, and deal with how long this is going to go on, and if this programme is going to be continued and used as it is now. Of course, if they are hoping perhaps to have a higher standard on this home, I do not know; but I wonder if the minister could respond on that area.

Another area of concern to this party is moving into some more extensive programme of community clinics within the province. In last year's estimates we were given some indication that the government was considering more pilot projects in this field. I realize that the Ottawa community clinic is now in the formative stages. I understand also they are not going to get capital grants from the provincial or the federal governments. I wonder if this was one of the pilot projects that were spoken of by the minister last year? I wonder what other plans to move into some similar type of arrangement are under way, or if in fact there is no planning in the department in this regard.

I understand that the Ontario Medical Association is not too happy with moving in this direction. I believe they have given directives to the medical personnel in the St. Catharines community clinic that they are not to speak about the programme outside of their particular community clinic, and some restrictions have probably been directed

against the doctors in the Ottawa clinic to the same degree. I want to say that this kind of thing is supposed to be advertising and it is against the ethics of their profession, but I wonder if it is a justifiable restriction.

Another area of concern this party has felt, and I outlined it in my previous speech, we believe the government should move into setting up a central drug purchasing agency. At present the government is able to negotiate fairly reasonable prices on quantities of drugs for their own institutions or Ontario Hospitals. I believe there is even a movement afoot to buy the drugs needed for the correctional institutions and the homes for the aged in the province. This, of course, results in very low costs compared to what the retail pharmacist has to buy from his wholesaler.

Manitoba is moving into a central drug purchasing agency and I think that if this province were to buy in bulk we could cut down significantly the cost of drugs to the consumer. I have read certain articles on the cost of drugs and the inflated prices that are charged to the Canadian consumer by the pharmacy industry of this country. It seems to me we are paying a much higher price in many respects than many other jurisdictions and I feel this programme would be of inestimable value.

I must say we are happy with the reductions that Parcost has been able to effect. I think it is one step in the answer. We would reiterate that consideration be given to the amendment of The Pharmacy Act that pharmacists be permitted to substitute a lower price generic drug on the index for a more expensive one, whether it be a brand name or the like, so that the consumer could receive his drugs at a cheaper rate and get the lowest cost drug on the index. I understand the pharmacy association is in favour of this but the Ontario Medical Association is not.

We have discussed the whole area of negotiation with the Ontario Medical Association in setting the fee schedule that OHSIP will pay. We believe that negotiation is a proper word and that the OMA must justify the kind of raises they intend to make in their fee schedule and that it be a real give and take.

There is precedence for this within the Province of Ontario. I understand that the Workmen's Compensation Board lays down a schedule of fees and negotiates with the medical association as to what they will pay and what is justifiable for certain procedures.

There appears to me to be a very amicable relationship between the Compensation Board and the medical profession.

Sometimes people feel it is too amicable, but nonetheless this kind of relationship does exist where the fee schedules are indeed negotiated. I understand, of course, that the WCB are regulated by statute and they set the fee schedule by negotiation. If it works in one area, one wonders why it does not work in another.

One other thing in OHSIP that I would like to raise again, is that the department consider the cost of transportation of specialists. There are many parts of the province that do not have very many specialists. If you are incapacitated and need the services of this kind of a specialist, you have got to pay either the air fare or the train fare, or whatever it may be, to come many miles south to see a physician.

I know one French-speaking constituent of mine felt she could not go to an English-speaking doctor. She just did not speak any English so, as a result, she went to a doctor in Quebec City; she had to pay the transportation, and the schedule of fees charged by the Quebec doctor seems to be much higher than those in Ontario.

Hon. R. T. Potter (Minister without Portfolio): You still do not know when you are well off.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, with the talk about doctors coming from Quebec to Ontario, with the schedule of fees they have there, I wonder whether the reverse may not be rather enticing. But over and above the 90 per cent she had a great deal to pay, and she also had the cost of transportation back and forth. I think that it is reasonable for the department to give real consideration to this proposal where a specialist is not in the area, and specialist's treatment is warranted—and in fact demanded—that a person should not be precluded from this because of high transportation costs.

There is one final item I wish to deal with and then I will conclude. The members of this committee are well aware that many of Ontario's institutions for the mentally retarded are overcrowded and understaffed. The minister himself has indicated that such is the case in the Ontario Hospital schools for the retarded in Orillia and Smiths Falls. I refer to the Hansard of April 6. The administrator of the Orillia hospital has suggested that he needs 250 to 300 more people to bring his staff up to the required level.

The conditions which result when patients are crowded into inadequate facilities have been graphically described in recent weeks by my colleagues, the members for High Park (Mr. Shulman) and Lakeshore (Mr. Lawlor). The long-term existence of such large institutional treatment centres as Orillia and Smiths Falls is of questionable value.

Adequate care or treatment cannot be administered to children in that sort of environment, even were the problem of staff deficiencies to be solved. The province must replace such prisons—for this is what they amount to—with much smaller facilities, closely integrated with community and public health services, where proper treatment, care and supervision can be provided in a family atmosphere.

We recognize that this is the direction in which the present minister plans to move, and we hope he will do so as rapidly as possible. However, while urging the minister to act, and while waiting patiently for decentralization to occur, we cannot ignore the conditions which continue to exist in the larger hospital schools for the retarded in this province. The promise of better things to come does not solve present problems. I am sure the minister recognizes this. Extra staff must be provided for such institutions as the Orillia hospital as quickly as possible.

While it is desirable that new personnel should be trained and experienced, there is an obvious need in the larger Ontario hospitals for non-professional staff whose role would be to provide supervisory care for the patients. It would seem that this is a function which could be performed quite effectively by young people, particularly university or even high school students, who would be prepared to work for a summer or for longer periods in such institutions as a means of getting practical experience in working with people, as a break from their studies for those who wish to re-evaluate their education plans and of course as a means of earning some money.

It is not necessary to remind the members of this committee of the unemployment crisis which this country faces. I would point out, however, the particularly bleak picture faced by young people under 25. The number of unemployed people in this group increased by 20,000 in April, which represents a figure of 13.6 per cent.

This month and next hundreds of thousands of young people will be coming onto the job market, some just for the summer but many permanently. If we are to find

employment for these people, it will be necessary for government, including the provincial government in Ontario, to play a much more active role. We can no longer rely on tax credits to private industry to pull the economy out of recession.

We note with approval the announcement in the budget of an increase of 332 in the staff complement of The Department of Health, although it appears that very few of these new employees will be assigned to the older hospital schools. We note also the Premier's (Mr. Davis's) announcement in the Hansard of April 6 that 200 high school students will be employed for a few weeks this summer in the health and social service fields although, since the Minister of Social and Family Services (Mr. Wells) claims that about 100 of these are to be assigned to his department and since the Premier specifically mentioned several areas of The Department of Health within which the others would be working, it appears that a mere handful will be available to the Ontario Hospital schools.

We are not suggesting a handful, Mr. Chairman. We are suggesting a comprehensive programme to employ thousands of young people across the province in the provision of services to people, with particular emphasis on health services and with special emphasis within that field on the Ontario Hospital schools for the retarded.

Perhaps it is too late to undertake such a programme this summer, but I would urge the minister to set his civil servants to work right away in planning this sort of programme for the future. Go to the Treasury Board and demand more money, and if they turn you down, fight strongly for a larger appropriation the next time cabinet discusses spending priority. You will have the unanimous support of this party and perhaps of the other one too.

The need for such programmes is apparent and admitted. Ontario has thousands of young people who would gladly be prepared to participate. We have the financial resources too. If cabinet can find \$125 million for private corporations, it can surely find just a few million for the less fortunate residents of Ontario. And with this, I will draw my opening remarks to a conclusion.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ferrier. We are now dealing with vote 701, item 1, and may I remind you that I would appreciate again if you would deal with the items in order, according to the classification. We will make better progress. We will have better

understanding and you will co-operate with the minister in his department.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if it would be appropriate for me to run through quickly a sort of primary response to the two speeches that have been made, realizing that they cover pretty well the whole spectrum of the activities of the department and then, when we get into the items, of course they will be dealt with in greater depth than I can with the assistance of my officials.

Mr. Ben: I would agree.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: So this will not be a full answer because I am not capable of giving it in depth.

With regard to the premiums of OHSC and OHSIP, it is a governmental commitment that these will be combined. It is not just a promise, and they will be combined, my understanding is, as of July 1, 1972. What the level will be of course is a matter of policy; they will be blended and the blend, insofar as it is made up, of course will obviously relate to what degree of the burden will be borne by premiums and what degree will be borne by the general revenues of the province.

With regard to the \$3.50 payable under the new nursing home programme, that figure is not a deterrent fee—it was never designed to be a deterrent fee. It was designed, as I understand it, to recognize the very minimal level of cost that any citizen would be putting up with to live anywhere in the province—his own home, I suppose, being the cheapest media in which a person can live. The \$3.50 relates to equating a very minimum cost that every citizen, other than those completely on government assistance, which we would be carrying in any case.

Mr. Ferrier: Regarding welfare recipients, would that be paid for by the local welfare agencies or would it be by the province directly?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think it will be by the province directly. It will be paid on behalf of the welfare recipients by the government directly.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, it is almost logical what you are saying, but then does not a person who is committed to a hospital bed also find himself relieved of paying some of the normal carrying charges of living. For

example, why are you not charging a patient in hospital for his meals?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Shall I say that the hon. member for Humber is suggesting this?

Mr. Ben: Well if you want to follow your reasoning one would have to, would you not?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think I agree, but at certain points you have to be simply practical and—

Mr. Ben: Why are you not practical in both cases, or are not both cases practical?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not going to raise the question of \$3.50 a day in OHSC, that could be—

Mr. Ben: You say that this is covering the ordinary cost of living, and I do not disagree. A person has to buy his food whether he is in a hospital or whether he is anywhere else; he has to live. Although one wonders, one could logically ask if the man is incapacitated by illness and cannot work then he would be entitled to general welfare assistance. And if he was entitled to general welfare assistance the government would supply him with his room and board.

Now is it for that reason you do not charge a person for lodging and for his board in a hospital? He cannot work. Could you extend that reasoning to apply also to nursing homes, and say if the person is incapacitated: "If we did not have him here, if we threw him out, he would go to general welfare, receive assistance and he would use that money to pay us?"

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The only point I really want to make at this stage is that it is not right to class it as a deterrent fee.

Mr. Ben: You do not want to class it as such, but that is what it is.

Mr. Ferrier: It has the same effect nonetheless.

Mr. Ben: You could be like Alice in Wonderland, or the Queen, and choose to call it what you want, but in fact it is what it is.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our experience may show different results, but at the moment we do not feel that it will in fact act as a deterrent.

Mr. Ben: Well we will not call it a deterrent if you do not want us to, we will just

call it blood money exacted by the government.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Come back in 18 months or two years and you will know and we will know at that time, whether indeed it has had a deterrent effect; and if so your words will be appropriate.

Mr. Ben: Are you going to check the increase in the deaths or something?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I think we can probably assess the programme and its impact, whether we find people—as I think you alleged earlier—are being held in hospitals by compassionate doctors because of the \$3.50.

Mr. Ben: Are the doctors going to tell you?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we can learn. With regard to nursing homes and the slowing down recently of their licensing, there are several reasons for that, and one is that the nursing homes in this province are at the moment on the point of reaching an excess figure in relation to beds. And if pending licences, so far as we can see, and certainly proposed applications, are considered we could under present conditions be up to our neck in an absolute surplus of nursing home beds.

Therefore when this programme that I announced this afternoon comes into force we have to do a number of things. One of the key ones, of course, is to relate nursing home development in the province to need.

In other words, to paraphrase what I said earlier today, we have got to see that the whole province, towns, villages, cities and country are served by nursing homes and not permit the nursing home industry, if you want to call it that, to simply spring up and cluster wherever it may wish.

It is no good having 3.5 beds per thousand in the whole province if in the town of Brockville, shall we say, you do not have any, and in the city of Niagara Falls you have them, as I said, coming out your ears. So one of the things we have to have in the programme is the application of the question of public convenience and necessity, or in the simple sense need.

The other thing we have to do is ensure that when we move into this programme the beds themselves and the care taken meets a certain standard, and that is why we have to have a very important exercise in inspection.

Mr. Ben: That is recorded under the Act that your predecessor from Ontario riding passed, the Act is there—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The criterion for that particular licence relates to a blend of the nursing homes function, namely custodial and nursing or medical. In our opinion, if we are going to move into a nursing home programme, as we are now and in the future, relating specifically to the support of nursing home beds we want to assess the standard as it applies to nursing beds themselves, which can be to a degree a different criterion than that with which we used to put a floor under services three years ago—or four years ago, or whatever it was; three years ago.

Mr. Ben: Sure, but the floor was at the height of Mount Everest.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think it is a reasonable thing to do before we move into a multi-million-dollar programme to specifically address our attention to the quality of care that must be provided in relation to that state-supported exercise.

Mr. Ben: Do these people qualify for licences? They remodelled the nursing homes, they complied with the Act as it exists—and I point out to you that your programme does not come into effect until April 1, 1972, to your eternal shame. The fact is that these homes were purchased, renovated or constructed in accordance with the law of the land as it was established by this government. And after the people did so out of the clear blue sky you say: "All your savings can go down the drain, to pot with you people, we do not give a tinker's damn, you are not getting a licence."

That is Ontario's justice!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is nonsense!

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): Mr. Chairman, we are not discussing this item by item, with all due respect, give the minister the floor, you have had your chance.

Mr. Ben: Give him the floor? Sorry, but we will give it to him.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have lost track. In any case, I think we can certainly vindicate the necessity for reassessment and the raising of standards in those homes where we are going to be giving governmental or taxpayers' support.

Mr. Ben: But you are—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, this takes nothing away from the nursing home that is not leaning on this programme for its sustenance. In other words, I think we are quite entitled to set a standard in relation to nursing homes that are going to be serving the government that may be higher than that of the nursing home which is fundamentally a custodial residence whose standard of care and other standards are not as significant or directly connected with the programme.

Mr. Ben: Is the minister going to compel all nursing homes to subscribe to his programmes?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Ben: Then how does the minister know whether the applicant for a licence is going to be one of those that subscribes to his programme or not?

Mr. Evans: Why does the member not wait until the minister is finished to ask his questions?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We can have nursing homes or we can have homes that are called nursing homes today, which will not qualify in any way for our programme. Nor, on the other side, will we stop older people if they wish to take an apartment or a room in the Royal York Hotel from simply living there if that is what they want to do. So there will be a class of nursing home under this programme which will be certified and recognized as part of our nursing home programme of 1972.

I do not make any great apologies for the delay. I can tell the member that it will take the months ahead to have the reassessment of quality. It will take months ahead to set up an understanding in detail of the budgetary situation in each home, and I do think that we need this lead time to assess the question of need. We just cannot simply spray the garden with money in the nursing home field and let it go wild, and that is why we have to develop these controls at the same time as we underpin it with taxpayers' premium and money.

The next question was raised by the member for Humber concerning physicians' assistants and fleshers—is that what they are called?

An hon. member: Feldshers!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Feldshers! Fleshers are a form of a butcher, I guess?

We are moving. We have a number of experimental projects in this field, but we have something which the member would understand is a problem, being a lawyer. We really have not come to grips, as far as I can see it, with questions of definition.

It is surprising to me how loosely different terms are used in the medical profession, and in others, in relation to what can be completely different functions. We do not want to develop second-rate doctors in this province, but we do have a need.

We have a need, it seems to me, for two different things and we have got to assess what these things are.

One is a physician's assistant. That is a person who, to me, is supportive directly of the physician with his skills—right there. Whether it be physically in the room or not, we do need that category of person. We also need—in northern Ontario you would notice it particularly—we also need someone who is not a physician's assistant in that sense, but a physician's delegate. Does the member follow the distinction I am making?

Mr. Ben: I do, I am following.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is in the assessment of these that I am involved at the moment. The college itself is assessing the kind of statutory changes that are involved and, in my own mind and in the minds of those who are advising me, I was searching to define these two roles.

As I say, we have programmes involving what you might call physicians' assistants and certainly in the north we must move to see if we can use, what I call nurse delegates, or physicians' delegates. And we must make darn sure in the very beginning that we understand what we are doing when we define these, as well as the other healing arts under our total programme.

Mr. Ben: But many doctors themselves—this College of Family Physicians—have said that you must develop an in-between.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No one quarrels with this. It is just a question of doing it right. I do not know how many schemes, or whom we get, into Dr. Reid's field and some of the more detailed items here. We can give you—

Mr. Ben: There is no—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —the details of the particular programmes we have.

Mr. Ben: Under what vote?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Research is one of them.

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister of Health): Research and planning!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will put it in there and Dr. Reid will speak to you about the number of projects we have, how many people are involved and what we are doing. I just did not want to get into that at this point. Again, as I said, I am just touching the tops of the questions.

You mentioned the higher mortality where there are doctors—the higher infant mortality. That is a peculiar exercise in statistics. In fact—

Mr. Ben: Excuse me, just so that I will not get caught later. I have just checked vote 5 and, with all due respect, it does not come under the health insurance registration programme; it does not come under there. It does not come under Ontario Hospital Services.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It comes under health resources development plan and Dr. Reid is the man. The details of what we are doing in this will be certainly available to you and—

Mr. Ben: Where under vote 5 does that come?

An hon. member: Page 115.

Mr. Ben: Page 115, note vote 5.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Health resources development.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 704.

Mr. Ben: And that will include nurses? What is it going to include, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, it will include the whole spectrum of experimental work and project development.

Mr. Chairman: Research and development—item 2.

Mr. Ben: Aside from the research—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Vote 704, item 3, so the member will have plenty of room to romp through those fields.

Mr. Ben: —assessments, adjudicating of payments and health resources development plan?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is right! That plan is the plan that will let the hon. member know, and Dr. Reid can let the member know how far we have gone in exploring the field of practical research, which is what he is interested in.

Mr. Ben: No, not in practical research, I am not. I am interested in the providing of medical services, not about research.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but that is where our pilot project is in relation to the role of these people. How well it works, how well it fits in with the other disciplines, how well it should balance with the other disciplines is being tested other than by arguments in learned papers and journals.

The next question you raised was the infant mortality rate. I have had the figures checked and in 1969 in Ontario infant mortality, per thousand live births, was 17.5.

Mr. Ben: I believe a woman last year made a presentation to show how high it is. That is the average and in some areas it is extremely high.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would expect on Indian reserves it would be very much higher than in places that are less economically deprived.

Mr. Ben: It goes to about 38, I think. The minister was just talking about average rates.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is what the member was talking about. I just wanted to give our figures which do not show, as I recall it—

Mr. Ben: That was for last year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That was 1969.

Mr. Ben: That was 1969. For Canada it was 19.3.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Canada is 19 for last year.

Mr. Ben: Oh, for last year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Is that not what the member said? Or was that 1969, too?

Mr. Ben: No; 19.3.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: So, it is nothing to brag about, but the figure is one that

should be given when you are giving the English figures.

With regard to coding of OHSIP evidence, cards and material, I take the same position the member put forward; namely, that we are not going to divide our citizens off by a code into those receiving support and those not receiving support. I do not recall each word that the member put forward, but this was a point that he made and I know, as minister in expressing the policy of this department, we have no intention of moving into that situation.

With regard to the points of the member for Cochrane South on dental care, as I have mentioned in the House we are on the brink of moving into this field. Certainly and obviously, the place to start will be with children. While I am no expert in this field I would like to see us do some more thinking about a clinical approach to dental care.

I would like to see us explore, in a little more detail, the system that apparently works rather well in Australia. There they have developed a clinical system related to the hospitals and use dentists on graduation or close to graduation in somewhat the way the medical profession uses interns in hospitals.

Now what works in other countries, whether it be Sweden or Australia or otherwise, does not necessarily apply here, of course. But I would be very interested in seeing us explore not only the children's field practically, and soon, but also the field of what you might call the clinical-cum-hospital-cum-intern system that has been developed very satisfactorily, I am told, in Australia, with regard to travelling dental services.

Mr. Ben: You do not supply dental services. That would come under the main vote—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Public health!

Mr. Ben: —the argument that you are having now with the dental technicians?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not arguing with the dental technicians.

Mr. Ben: Where would that come? Where would we discuss that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know. Public health, I suppose.

Mr. Ben: Tourists!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think all the healing arts standards can probably come up

under public health, because it is a public health concern.

Mr. Ben: This is more of a main office item—it is more a question of policy. The battle that is now raging is between dentists—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not really care whether you bring it up here or there.

Mr. Ben: Thank you—is between dentists and denturists and dental technicians. You were asked some questions in the House and you made some statements on this.

What I want to know is this. If at present a dental technician can make a set of false teeth based on hearsay evidence supplied to him by, in essence, a third person, should he not be able to do that job so much better if he could have the information directly and see the patient, see the shape of the mouth and actually frame his product to fit that mouth, rather than fit the information that was given to him third-hand?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it depends on the degree of skill that you are going to require. The problem with allowing a dental mechanic or a dental technician, or this group that call themselves denturists—

Mr. Ben: What would they be, by the way?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Denturists?

Mr. Ben: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, some of them are dental technicians, some of them have been employees in the laboratories of dental technicians and, in the absence of any objective standards, technically some of them could be picked off the street, as it were, because they have no training or standards as such. They are not a statutory body. They are a voluntary association of people who have collected together and given themselves a name.

Mr. Ben: Well, where do they fit between dental mechanic and—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They do not fit. I called them a club once.

Mr. Ferrier: In point of fact they are almost to a man trained dental technicians and I believe almost every one of the 125 has the dental technician certificate in Ontario; a few have certificates granted in another province and have just not made the transfer to Ontario.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well there are just no statutory qualifications. They are not an animal recognized by the Ontario law. What we recognize is—

Mr. Ben: But they are dental technicians who have formed themselves into a group that call themselves denturists? Would that be correct?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Most of them are in this category.

Mr. Ferrier: Some dental technicians call themselves denturists.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But let us deal with dental technicians. I think that the answer there, just to repeat what I have said before, is that with the healing arts committee having reported, we are in the midst of trying to define everybody's role in the whole field of the healing arts, and one of those is the dental technician. The reason we cannot leap quickly, for instance, in permitting the dental technicians to deal directly with the public is because it is a great deal more complicated in fact—and from the point of view of medical fact—than it would seem.

I will give just two examples. First is the condition of the mouth. These people, being non-medically trained, may or may not recognize a carcinoma or cancerous condition in the mouth or any other disease of the mouth. They simply are not trained to recognize a number of diseases that may be evidenced by the condition of the mouth itself.

Also, when it comes to fitting there are good dental technicians and there are poor ones. To the extent that a dentist is involved he can and does, in dealing with the dental technicians, find out which are good enough to suit his standards—and those are the ones who are successful and have plenty of work coming to them from doctors. But teeth put in the mouth that do not fit can of course cause some very great difficulties in relation to the bones of the head and the pinching of nerves.

Without calling panic, there is a definite need for some degree of scientific dental supervision of what they do. This afternoon I cannot tell you what, but it certainly must lie beyond that of simply saying, "You can make teeth, and that is the end of your responsibilities." So we are in the business of trying to find how we relate to dentists themselves.

With regard to nursing homes, I did mention that I think the 11 months we have ahead of us are going to be needed. You do recall, as does my predecessor but one who was here a few moments ago; no, it was my predecessor—the problems we had in moving OHSIP. I think it is excellent and gratifying and satisfying that we have 11 months to move into what is going to be a very important but very complicated new programme. I do not know anything about the questions you raised concerning the Ontario Hospitals and the backup in relation to the homes for special care. Perhaps at a later point, Dr. Charron, you could deal with that.

With regard to community clinics, yes, we have 15 or 16 pilot projects going, I believe, or that we are involved in across the province. Pilot projects in relation to community clinics are of very great interest to us as a department. The Ottawa proposal, in my opinion, was not a proposal for a pilot project; it was a full-blown, total programme.

I have told them in Ottawa—and we have been sitting down in the last few days with them and will be sitting down with them again—that we are certainly interested in support so far as that limited project is capable of being classified as a pilot project. What we do hold back from is leaping into very substantial support for something that is born as it were fully grown, as the Ottawa project would be.

As you know, on drug purchasing, in The Department of Health itself we have pooled our drug purchasing. We are also in terminal stages of a study assessing our ability or the efficacy of doing this in relation to our hospital system in the province and our correctional institutions; and other jurisdictions, I believe, are following us in this line.

Mr. Ferrier: When you say hospitals, do you mean just Ontario Hospitals or general hospitals?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. General hospitals—the whole system. And as a matter of fact in a few weeks I will have a report on my desk with recommendations in relation to drug purchasing for our total hospital system, as well as all the directly government-controlled institutions within the province.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Is that centralized?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have not seen the report yet and sufficient unto the day I will read it when it comes. I expect the

fundamental question to be asked is: "Can we set up a central purchasing operation for all institutions that are tax-supported?" I guess this is the key and fundamental question.

Mr. Ben: That is not the question. The question is will you? We know you can.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well let us have a look at it. Ask me in two or three weeks' time and I will let you know. We can do it for other things.

Mr. Ben: You can do it for everything else.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, let us see.

Mr. Ben: But will it turn out like the central purchasing in The Department of Public Works?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let me get the report and then we will judge it. As I say, it is only a few weeks away and then we will have it in front of us.

Now with regard to substitution, there is no significant conflict, as far as I understand it, between the College of Pharmacy and the OMA office. It is just a question of where the onus lies, whether they prescribe it in or prescribe it in the negative—out you know. In a negative sense, it is a question whether the pharmacist can go ahead, if there is not any requirement on the slip, or whether he can go ahead only where there is a statement that he can substitute.

Mr. Ferrier: It has to be a decision by the department here either to go along with it as it is now, or else make a change in The Pharmacy Act.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we will be making these changes. June 1 is the promised date for the committee's report on this. As I say, I only quarrel with the suggestion that there is very much in the way of a difference between the thinking of the college and the OMA. One of the problems is to find what you mean by substitution, whether you mean substitution of a brand or whether you mean substitution of the drug.

So in any case the other report will be on my desk in a few weeks and in this session, undoubtedly, as a response to your questions or the press, or on my own motion, the information as to developing policy will be before you.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Am I to understand from your remark a minute ago that you are going to go ahead with it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have not seen the recommendations but I think that if we get a good strong report and we find that we are not stumbling over any very great difference of opinion as between the pharmacists and the OMA, why not?

Mr. R. S. Smith: What about the public interest?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The public interest is, of course, in saving money, is it not?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes. We should look at the differences between the professions; but is not the public interest the overriding one?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. That is why the committee is chaired by a layman; I presume that is one of the reasons. So the recommendations of that committee, which will be reporting to me by June 1, will not be recommendations directly from either those who are pharmacists or those who are in the medical association.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I will add to this then.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay!

Mr. Ben: There is one question I would like to get back to before we rise and that is the one about the information I asked with reference to the questions you asked the OMA.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, as I said in the House this afternoon, I am digging this up. One thing I can do is read you the section I was referring to.

Mr. Ben: I have it here. I do not think we are going to agree on the interpretations. Is it page 346 you are reading?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Ben: All right. Which section are you going to read?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us not get into a legal argument in this gathering, but subsection 3 of that seems to me to be pretty strong. Let us discuss it afterwards—we can discuss it as lawyers—and see whether you still disagree.

Mr. Ben: Subsection 3 of which section?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Subsection 3 of section 23. I will give you the sentence: "Information referred to in subsection 1 may,

with the approval of the minister, be published by The Department of Health in statistical form, if the individual names of persons are not thereby revealed."

That is what I was referring to. I drew the line at your question saying, "Well, we want to know whether Dr. Brown did give Mrs. Smith a pill on Tuesday."

Mr. Ben: Well, you are entitled to that information in subsection 3 of section 22, which reads: "Every insured person shall be deemed to have authorized his physician or practitioner, who performed insured health services, to provide and direct with such information respecting the insured health services, performed as a direct requisite for the purposes of this plan."

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well that means that I, Bert Lawrence, can get this information from OHSIP, but it does not mean, as minister, that I can get that information for you. So if you want to know something, you can get it from OHSIP. But I, as minister, cannot divulge it to anyone else. Or am I misunderstanding it? Is that not what you just read? It is the persons themselves.

Mr. Ben: Every person who takes advantage of the services we supply under this Act is deemed by accepting that service to authorize you to obtain any information with reference to that service that you want. I presume that you are the director, you are the executive director of the health service insurance division, Department of Health. Is that you?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but you were not asking me whether I could get the information as minister. You were asking me whether I could divulge it to you as a third party, and I said no.

Mr. Ben: You mean you cannot tell us any impropriety that you find in the expenditures of the public money. Is that what you are saying?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly, I can, but the wording is here. I cannot do it if the individual names of persons are thereby revealed.

Mr. Ferrier: The member for Humber does not want to go on a witch-hunt, does he?

Mr. Ben: Certainly not. But I think we should know who is cheating the plan. Name them. Why should the medical profession be

absolved from having the sanctions of the public imposed upon it for its skulduggery?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am just telling the member for Humber the law as it is.

Mr. Ben: Then, obviously, you should change it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: These estimates are no place to get involved in policy.

Mr. Ben: The only way we can find out is if you charge them. There is a provision here that says a provision can be used if you charge them and we are going to ask that you charge all those people.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The Legislature is the body that can change that.

Mr. Ben: No; you charge all these miscreants so the public can find out who they are.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If we do—if there are any.

Mr. Ben: Are you going to shield them?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, sir.

Mr. Ben: You have admitted that some of them have been doing it. Why are you not prosecuting them?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have not found any case of fraud yet.

Mr. Ben: Upstairs, with the radio or television media—you may say that this was not a rhetorical question or a charge, but this was an example that you found in your examination of the plant.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I said—if you want to read the questions—they speak for themselves. There is simply a challenge to the medical profession, to the public and everyone else to look at certain situations that have been triggered by the knowledge we have now.

Mr. Ben: You have all the examples of each and every charge; that is what you told us.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, we have found examples in the shift in the number of tonsilectomies in this province in relation to children, shall we say.

Okay, we have seen the shift. I do not know, and you do not know, what is the cause of that shift. But I do think that we

are darn well entitled to find out what the reasons are and that is as far—you know that I am not going to hang anyone until we get the evidence. Are you?

Mr. Ben: You stated that you found an example of every charge you raised.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are not charges.

Mr. Ben: You did not say they were charges but you did find an example of a claim reaching OHSIP which did not represent the services provided. You did find that there was a general increase in charges for general assessments and re-assessment over ordinary office visits.

You did find—you must have found—unconscionable claims, because the way you framed the question is “Why are claims reaching OHSIP which do not represent the services provided?” It implies they are reaching OHSIP. “Why do claims for general assessment or reassessment constitute an increasing proportion of office practices?” and so on. Does this mean, in your opinion, it must be happening? You are asking why it is happening.

You ask “Why are unconscionable claims submitted for detention time?” Unconscionable claims for detention time must be reaching your department in your opinion or you would not have asked that question.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is right. It is *prima facie*.

Mr. Ben: “Why are surprising numbers of surgical procedures of questionable necessity being performed in this province?” This is the tonsilectomy. It must, in your opinion, be existing or you would not be asking the question.

“Why do you permit physicians to have an interest in laboratories and why is there significantly greater use?” and so on. Again, you are asking why does this happen, so it must be happening. Therefore, you have examples of it happening. We want you to tell us what these occasions are. Right?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I know that is what you want.

Mr. Ben: Okay, so give it to us.

Mr. Chairman: There is a place for that and you can get all these answered.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: With regard to—

Mr. Ben: I am going to get all these answers, Mr. Chairman? Scout's honour?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would not have asked the questions if I did not want them answered.

Mr. Ben: Okay, but we want you to give us the incidents which gave rise to your asking.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Within the strictures—

Mr. Ben: If we can get it at a later vote, fine. I have asked the Chairman to assure me that we would get it. I am not fussy that it be given now.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All right, you will be given as much as I can give you within the strictures of the present statute.

Mr. Ben: Well, okay.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Now, summer employment: We have a big programme here—1,800 young people directly involved this summer in the Health department itself. We have several hundred now going on the RSVP high school kids programme. That one I would like to see expanded because it is—I wish we could do something about it this year because the cost is not great.

We give them \$400 as a block payment for their work. I must agree with you that we should broaden these youth programmes. Personally, I am quite intrigued with the significance of broadening it into the total hospital field and the Ontario Hospital Association itself is interested in this.

It is good for our society. It is good for our community and, in the long run of of course the greater the commitment to the

community, to our health care system, the better it will be and then, hopefully, the cheaper it will be.

Mr. Ferrier: Will you please explain your RSVP?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is called—I know what SWEEP is—at least I did—

Mr. Ferrier: Just what is involved?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not répondez, s'il vous plaît, I know that.

Do you know, Mr. Mealing?

Mr. N. E. Mealing (Administrative Officer, Department of Health): It is Retardation Summer Volunteer Programme.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think that is about all that I can touch on. Did I miss something entirely?

Mr. Ferrier: Thank you. There is one question that I raised about the mobile dental clinics—we had just started on it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, we have two railway cars and three buses.

Mr. Ferrier: You have three buses now? Is that new?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The Red Cross has been operating them and they are turning them over to us.

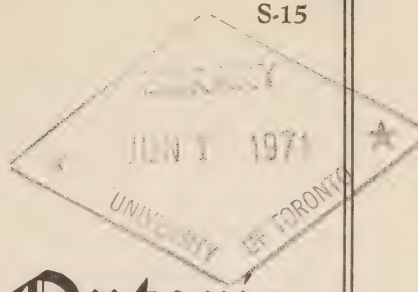
Mr. Chairman: The committee will rise and return at eight o'clock. I mean eight o'clock.

The committee took recess at 5:55 o'clock, p.m.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, May 17, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 17, 1971

The committee resumed at 8:14 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

On vote 701:

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I wish to discuss that Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation vote.

You may recall that last year an issue was raised by the member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) with reference to the detoxication centre on Harbord Street which had been closed. The minister of the day led us to believe that the detoxication centre had, in fact, not closed simply because they had to vacate the premises on Harbord Street, but that it had been relocated at Seaton House and at Harbour Light. Seaton House is operated as a sort of a home for transient senior citizens sometimes and Harbour Light, of course, is one of the services supplied by the Salvation Army.

We accepted at that time the minister's statement that there were now more beds available in these two locations than had been available at the centre on Harbord Street. Lo and behold, to our chagrin, later on we found out that this was not so—that in fact, the police now had fewer beds available to them. In fact the police had to go and make special arrangements with the Salvation Army in operating the Harbour Light home on Jarvis Street or Sherbourne Street—Jarvis I think—to have beds made available so that they could take drunks to this centre as a replacement for the detoxication centre.

Mr. Chairman, and through you to the minister, my research indicates that we still have not got a replacement for the detoxication centre we had on Harbord Street. I believe that 12 beds are supposed to be, or may be, available at Seaton House, but in talking with someone just last week I found out that the police last year had only been able to make use of 89 bed-nights because of the lack of facilities. Only 89 drunks or

intoxicated individuals, or however you want to refer to them, could have been placed by them because of this particular need.

It would appear that with the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation—in the estimates it is written, "Alcoholism and Drug Addition Research"—I do not think we want to add any drugs. It is just a typographical error. It appeared that when they were operating the detoxication centre it was costing them approximately \$50 a day per patient.

Recently they had a conference on this problem and they decided to ask the government to help them set up some of these detoxication centres—I believe a dozen of them throughout Toronto. My area—not where my riding is, but where I spent most of my youth and adult life and where my legal office is—is one of the areas picked to locate the first detoxication centre of this type.

They say that it costs \$5 less to treat a person in a detoxication centre than it does to house them at the Don Jail. I believe it is \$17, against \$12, or \$16, against \$11, but it is \$5 to \$6 cheaper to take a person to a detoxication centre than it is to house them in the Don jail.

Last year when we were discussing a central lock-up for the city, I referred to a statement that had been made by Deputy Chief Jack Ackroyd, who has earned some kind of reputation in North America for his enlightened treatment of youngsters who get themselves into trouble through the use of drugs—non-medical type of drugs. He expressed the opinion that we should not be looking towards central lock-ups, but instead we should be looking at these detoxication centres. He believed that people should not be looking at the number of lives lost among those locked up, if they want the answer, but the number of lives that were not lost when they were in the hands of people like those who operate the detoxication centre—that the answer would be that most of the people who died were in some way ill.

As I say, after all this material is brought forward, I find out last week that the government seems to be shying away from doing

something about these detoxication centres like a city slicker from a bucking bronco. Why? Everybody says that this is a better solution to the problem or a better attempt to find a solution to the problem. It certainly is more humane treatment. It certainly is cheaper.

I certainly say it is cheaper than putting them in jail. It costs less to put up a detoxication centre than it does to put up a jail. In the Toronto area we read that the Don jail is one of those that will be replaced by a regional lock-up or something of that nature. I think it is third in priority to Barton Street jail in Hamilton and some other jail someplace out in western Ontario towards London.

This means we are not going to be getting new facilities to replace the existing Toronto jail, or Don Jail as it is called. So, why in heaven's name do you not do what these people want and set up these detoxication centres across the city and save the taxpayers' money if you want to put that as your chief priority? You people are always talking about saving money, so I put that first, although to me the humane aspect should come first as you are giving them better treatment and more chance of them coming out of the whole situation with a saner outlook than when they went in.

Why are you not following up or continuing with this programme? Why did you discontinue the detoxication centre as it was operated?

Perhaps I should not ask why. I know why. I understand that you had too many doctors and specialists and psychiatrists there, whereas now it is determined that they do not need so many, that if you are going to operate a detoxication centre on Harbord Street then you would have to pay \$50 a day, but they have now come to the conclusion that you do not need all those specialists and that you could operate on about \$11 or \$12 a day.

So, with all that information in hand, are you now going to start a crash programme of setting up detoxication centres to which the police could take the people who are inebriated—I think that drunk is a more honest word—rather than throwing them in jail?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): I think the answer is to be found in the distinction between several centres operated experimentally, which makes sense and the word you used—a programme. A programme in this field involves not only a

change in the law, because the liquor control legislation sets certain offences and how they should be dealt with, but it also requires just that—a programme.

In other words, it is not a question of opening store fronts and policing them and calling them detoxication centres; they have to be related to a health service. Broadly speaking in our basic policy that requires them to relate to health care and hospital services probably.

Beyond that there is no abandonment. It is the next step to move from isolated services to a programme, and the intention of the government is to develop a programme. Those two steps must be taken. One, as I said, the legal step to sort out the relationship between what was an offender to that of what is to be a patient, and the second part is to relate it to our health services, and particularly our hospital services generally.

Now I think to give you any more detail I would ask Mr. Archibald to speak to the question.

Mr. H. D. Archibald (Executive Director, Addiction Research Foundation): At the present time, Mr. Chairman, there are 14 beds operating as a detoxication centre within Seaton House. One of the differences between the operation on Harbord Street, which was torn down as you know, and the operation at Seaton House insofar as the police are concerned, is that the police had exclusive admission authority to the Harbord Street facility, whereas admission to the Seaton House operation has been spread on a broader community basis.

As of March—the last report I have actually—approximately 80 had been referred to this unit by the police. That is compared with 105 from doctors in hospitals, 100 from AA, for instance, and various other referral sources.

In addition to this there are 10 beds available in the Harbour Light. Again we have worked directly with the Salvation Army to establish these beds and the police do have some access to these beds as well. But again, it is on a broader community front.

Mr. Ben: How many beds are there available to the police?

Mr. Archibald: None exclusively labeled for the police in these units. Then in addition in approximately a week or so, there will be 10 beds available for female chronic drunkenness offenders within Street Haven.

We have been working with that programme in order to develop a detoxication facility for females. We will be making a grant-in-aid to this group in order to get this one off the ground.

That, generally, is the bed situation with reference to detoxication per se. But none of these is operating exclusively for the police.

Mr. Ben: How many beds did you have available at the Harbord Street?

Mr. Archibald: Twenty-four.

Mr. Ben: You still have 24, but now they are not—they are for the exclusive use of the police?

Mr. Archibald: That is right. That is the major difference.

Mr. Ben: In essence, all told, perhaps the figure—maybe you are right, but the total bed occupancy last year was 89. You said 80 for Seaton.

Mr. Archibald: Yes, I do not know how many have been admitted by the police to Harbour Light.

Mr. Ben: What was it costing you at the Harbord Street project per bed/day?

Mr. Archibald: The Harbord Street project was approximately \$45 per patient per day.

Mr. Ben: What is it costing down at Seaton House?

Mr. Archibald: Seaton House—approximately \$10 per patient per day.

Mr. Ben: It is \$10? It costs \$17 to keep them in jail, more or less.

Mr. Archibald: I am sorry, I have not any data on the cost in the jail.

Mr. Ben: I understand that a joint project between Western Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital, the Ontario Hospital—of course, nobody refers to it by that name any more—the Queen Street Psychiatric Hospital, and No. 14 police station, is supposed to be located somewhere within the limits of the three hospitals and the police station; that would be between Runnymede and Bathurst. Have you picked a site, or are you involved in that?

Mr. Archibald: Some of our people are involved in this on a planning and development basis. We have indicated to them, actually, that we would be interested in

assisting them via a grant-in-aid mechanism but not necessarily operating the unit.

Mr. Ben: You do not know if they have found a site?

Mr. Archibald: No, I am sorry, I do not.

Mr. Ben: May I inquire if your associates know if they have found a site?

Mr. H. J. Schankula (Addiction Research Foundation): We are not aware of the site.

Mr. Ben: I am sorry. Mr. Minister, the reason I raised this topic was because your immediate predecessor had been guilty of what was referred to in Ottawa as terminological inexactitude. I raised this because 10 years ago at least, the then Attorney General, Mr. Kelso Roberts, in a speech he made, advocated setting up detoxication centres. A grand jury more than 12 years ago also recommended setting up detoxication centres. They said that drunks should not be thrown in jail. Here we are, a decade later—recommendations brought down by the grand jury, a minister of the Crown says this is the way to handle the situation; we start an experiment. I do not know why the format changed. I guess it was perhaps getting expensive at \$45 a bed, but to me you are carrying out an experiment with research, so I do not think that should scare anybody away. If you research and you go into something unknown then you expect to spend some money until you find the stones that will take you to the other side of the creek. But to have in Metro Toronto only 24 beds available for this type of a project or a plan, to me, is really shocking. I just cannot understand why this situation has been permitted to exist other than because it is Toronto.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think it is neither Toronto nor cost. It is the question that government faces in trying to put together programmes. This particular programme involves moving a category of citizen and his activity from intoxication in a public place as a quasi-criminal into a system, into a milieu that is ready to deal with him and deal with him in the best way. Programmes cannot develop as soon as the need is seen.

I do not think you will have to wait very long until you see the beginnings of a programme based on amendments in the law which indeed do settle the status of the person as being ill, essentially, rather than criminal or in breach of The Liquor Control Act. I think you will find it correlated, as we

must, to our general hospital system. You will not have to wait months for this; it is very topical. I do not think we can apologize for the need to develop a programmatic approach to these questions.

Mr. Ben: Are you expressing a personal opinion? Are you expressing policy? Are you expressing a hope?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am expressing the facts as they are.

Mr. Ben: We can expect—in essence, what you are saying is that in the immediate foreseeable future, which is within months, we can expect something concrete to come out of this government to change the whole concept of our treatment of—for want of a better word, we would call it a ‘drunk’—or a person who imbibes too frequently.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The first stage is not the bricks and mortar stage. The first stage, I think—and it is not a great problem—is to sort out the legal side.

Mr. Ben: I will tell you we will applaud from this side of the House; make no bones about that. I understand the problem—to go back to what the Chairman was saying when we started—about trying to stay within the limits of these estimates. You pointed out the difficulty that sometimes we face.

We are trying to decide what to do with these people who have a very deep problem and we find ourselves going into another department, the Attorney General's, perhaps even out of our own jurisdiction. We are dealing with the Criminal Code aspect of it. We are going to meet the same problem when we come to discuss hospitalization and research. How can we stay within the orbit of the estimates and talk about treating people in the hospitals against the effects of pollution, for example, or treating them for emphysema, bronchitis or asthma? A doctor treats the patient in the hospital; perhaps even gives them oxygen and then the poor patient has got to go out and breathe in all that pollution.

It is difficult to discuss one's estimates without going beyond and saying “what are we going to do about the situation?” Evidently you are promising us some solution to this particular problem and it involves The Department of The Attorney General and perhaps even the Provincial Secretary.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly the Attorney General.

Mr. Ben: I think the Liquor Control Board and those people report through the Provincial Secretary.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. I suppose the legislation would come through the Attorney General.

Mr. Ben: I just want to ask you one question and then I will let my friend here have a go at you.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): Is it on the same—

Mr. Ben: Pardon?

Mr. Lawlor: I would like to explore the same subject.

Mr. Ben: All right, providing you stay on the same subject.

Mr. Lawlor: Just briefly; this has come up an infinite number of times, particularly in the Attorney General's estimates as the minister no doubt knows. Down through the years we have in vain said a great deal about taking this drunkenness off the streets business and lining them up in the courtroom morning after morning at the old City Hall. Are you saying to us tonight that you have really begun to sink your teeth into this problem? That you, I take it in consultation with the Attorney General of this province, have in mind a change in the law in The Liquor Control Act and so on, of such a kind that you no longer will parade these men before the courts morning after morning but will give them treatment with health facilities through the general hospitals in a way that the present situation will no longer go on and a new policy will come into being in the province?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The answer is yes, and we have costed it. I think that the beginnings of the programme have been costed at \$2.4 million. We have even done our homework on the dollars and cents involved. We cannot give you an absolute answer because that is a gross figure. As you and I know and as the member for Humber knows, the net figure we will never know because of what it takes to operate our present system—

Mr. Ben: Can you afford not to spend it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is the kind of situation we are in, but without taking the net approach to it we figure that an adequate programme can be started for \$2.4 million.

Mr. Lawlor: How do you envisage that it will work? The alleviation of the courts? Would you save I think hundreds of thousands of taxpayers dollars first of all? That would be a move forward. On the other side of the fence, what is the follow-up procedure that you have in mind? When a man is picked up intoxicated on the streets and taken to a hospital, how long is he kept? Is he dried out or—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not to the hospital, I think to a service related to the hospital, but I am not sure that physically it will be the hospital itself. But intellectually it must be a health care, hospital-oriented activity in the first instance.

Mr. Lawlor: Yes, not penally oriented activity, not a lockup type of thing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. Lawlor: But there must be a quasi-lockup?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Detention of a sort I suppose.

Mr. Lawlor: Would there be? And would there be a separate facility somewhere downtown in Toronto as we have talked about in the past?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Separate? I do not know, here I get beyond my depth and the particulars I suppose can be dealt with by Mr. Archibald, all I know from a policy point of view is that it should be health-service oriented. We neither want it to be a quasi-jail, nor do we want it to be a programme off on its own. I think the essence is that it be health-service oriented, which means that it must relate to the hospital system.

Mr. Lawlor: Precisely as it should be. Just again, how far does it go? Some of these men have been alcoholics for many years. I think you would agree with me that if they were released forthwith in many cases they would be back the next morning so to speak. What is the plan with respect to the period of, let us call it detention?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am going to be receiving final reports on this, and I think that perhaps Mr. Archibald could explore some of the alternatives that are being considered.

Mr. Archibald: Yes, Mr. Chairman, it is well recognized that detoxication per se is only one phase of the whole process. Let me go back briefly to the experience we had at

24 Harbord Street, the detoxication centre. We set out to determine really how to begin to handle the problem of the chronic drunk as an offender via a health-oriented service as opposed to the criminological process. We set out to really find what kind of system would be required.

One of the things that we did find here was that a relatively large number—a very small number, I am sorry—a relatively small number of those individuals who came to this unit escorted by the police, but still we had no authority to hold, so it was in essence a semi-volunteer type of admission, but only approximately five per cent of the total admission required intensive care that would be available in a general hospital.

Hence, we set out again to set up a modified kind of service such as in Seaton House which is a considerable modification of the original health plan. Certainly detoxication is just one phase. There are a reasonable number of the individuals however who can begin to turn around if they will, and seek the rehabilitation just from the detoxication centre itself.

But you have to have, from our point of view, additional back up services, namely the halfway house type variety where the stay will be somewhat longer than just a period of detoxication. Here the concentration, of course, is on reintegrating the man or integrating the man into society, assisting him in getting a job and the process of rehabilitation takes place.

Still another section of the population of course, will require, frankly, much longer-term care than is available either via the detoxication centre or the halfway house, and here is where we move to the foundation operation at the moment in which we are experimenting with a longer stay facility in Elora Farm, where we have patients from the chronic drunkenness offenders' skid row. Here we are trying to learn what is involved in dealing with the very difficult, if that is the word, chronically-depressed type of patient, in terms of a semi-therapeutic community within the rural environment.

Frankly I have been quite amazed at what is occurring in terms of the group at Elora. They have developed very considerable skills in furniture-making for instance, reclaiming antique furniture, and it has been quite surprising to us, actually to me—I was rather pessimistic about the outcome of this type of operation—but it was quite amazing to see the degree to which these chaps can, if given an

opportunity within this kind of environment, begin to turn around, if you will. And ultimately a certain percentage of them—we cannot give you the overall percentage yet, the follow-up studies are not complete—but a reasonable percentage of these chaps, the very difficult cases of course, can ultimately be re-established.

Mr. Lawlor: You have a three-stage process, let us call it? It is the second stage that interests me, within the confines of the moneys that the minister is speaking about, have you in mind the establishment of these halfway houses, or is this going to take extra capital and extra planning?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are included within those figures, the \$2.4 million.

Mr. Lawlor: How many would you start with, would you say, in Toronto or would there be other cities within the plan?

Mr. Archibald: We have one halfway house right now in Toronto and we have a number of other halfway houses that we support by grants in aid.

Mr. Lawlor: In Windsor, for instance?

Mr. Ben: Any in Windsor?

Mr. Archibald: Yes, a number of them actually. I think there are eight or nine throughout the province. We can give you a complete listing of that if you would care to.

Mr. Ben: If I may, may I?

Mr. Lawlor: Go ahead.

Mr. Ben: I applaud what is coming out and I look forward with great anticipation to this programme being implemented. However, I am still concerned as to the depth and extent of this programme. In Toronto, I think they arrest about 22,000 drunks a year.

Mr. Archibald: That is the number of arrests, that is not the number of individuals. A lot of them repeat in there.

Mr. Ben: There are some figures. I believe that in Ontario we have 140,000 alcoholics and they use that term in a sense that you would not use it on these people that drink. Now we are talking about 125 beds. It is a start. I am just wondering how far it is going to go? I want to know how many of those—I dare I say a good percentage of those 22,000 are repeaters as you say, they are

arrests, and a lot of them could be brought back as soon as they beg the price of another bottle of wine.

Is this programme of yours geared to these people who are arrested—22,000 arrested—as distinguished from the 140,000 who are alcoholics? I am quite aware that the 22,000 that are arrested—or I do not know how many number of individuals they are, it could be only 11,000 arrested twice a year—but I want to distinguish what service you have for these particular groups, because to me they are treated as groups even though one could overlap the other? In other words, each and every one of the 22,000 could be an alcoholic. On the other hand a lot of the 22,000 could be just fellows out on occasional binges, maybe the first time in their life, whereas with alcoholics it is usually interpreted as a continuing problem. In this programme to whom is it most geared?

Mr. Archibald: This particular programme is geared to what we were calling the chronic drunk as an offender, by the way which represents about 10 per cent of the total problem of alcoholism in the province, the skid row type.

So the programme we are referring to specifically, the detoxication programme and so on, was geared primarily in these terms towards the 10 per cent of the total problem of alcoholism, the chronic drunk as an offender, which is defined actually in operational terms as a person who is arrested three or more times in a given year.

Mr. Ben: Three or more times?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not a great health project.

Mr. Ben: I wanted to know.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): what is the relationship of the five per cent that you mentioned in your experience with Harbord? Are those in the range of five to 10 per cent the hard-core alcoholics who require treatment in an intensive sense?

Mr. Archibald: I am sorry—

Mr. MacDonald: You said 10 per cent here—

Mr. Archibald: The total problem of clinically diagnosable alcoholism in the province involves approximately 150,000 or thereabouts. Of this, about 10 to 15 per cent would be identified as the chronic drunken

offender, the chap who had deteriorated to the point where he has been arrested at least three or more times in a given year for public intoxication.

Mr. MacDonald: What is the five per cent that you used in your experience on Harbord Street?

Mr. Archibald: Of this group of patients that went through our detoxication centre; this was a group of patients brought by the police from the chronic drunken offender group, the skid row group. Five per cent of this total required intensive hospital care as opposed to 95 per cent that we handled in a much more modified kind of centre.

Mr. Ben: So how many chronic people do you think you will be able to handle with the \$2.4 million?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not a promise; that is a costing of a programme.

Mr. Ben: All right. Provided this programme was allocated \$2.4 million, how many people would it be able to process, for want of another word, or treat—I do not know what word you would use under the circumstances—or look after or care for or tend? Have you any idea at all?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What it would provide? I am just taking this off of the résumé of facts behind it—the capital costs of providing six centres in Metropolitan Toronto and one centre in each of the 10 Ontario judicial districts that have more than 1,000 arrests per annum for public intoxication—20 beds at—then it goes into the figures. So we are—

Mr. Ben: Six are in Metro Toronto and one each in the other judicial districts that have arrests exceeding what?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: One thousand per year.

Mr. Ben: One thousand per year. Have you any idea how many such districts there are?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Ten.

Mr. Ben: How many judicial districts are there?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The 10 Ontario judicial districts outside of Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. Ben: Sixteen centres.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The halfway houses, I see here, all should have a minimum of seven bedrooms; the capital cost of purchasing and renovating each house will be approximately \$150,000. The capital cost of providing six houses in Metro Toronto—

Mr. Ben: May I interrupt here? What makes the capital cost so high—\$150,000 when they are just a minimum of seven rooms? Is that not rather high?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Archibald? Why \$150,000 for seven rooms?

Mr. Ben: Mind that is a minimum of seven rooms, but still it is—

Mr. S. Dreezer (Budget Manager, Financial Services Branch): It is based on the experience the research foundation had in its existing facilities, and I think their premises were purchased about five or more years ago so we raised the cost a little. We are really playing with ballpark figures here, because all of these facilities have to be related in this particular area. They should be there to offer services, and in Metro Toronto of course the costs are fairly high.

Mr. Ben: Would they all be miniature detoxication centres such as was operated by this particular department or the Addiction Research Foundation on Harbord Street?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, here we are dealing with the chronic drunkenness offender.

Mr. Ben: Well, it seems to me that it is rather high for an average of seven rooms.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it is hospital-related; it is therapeutically related. It is part of a—

Mr. Ben: Okay. All right.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are not just dealing with the people you sweep up after the Grey Cup.

Mr. Ben: I understand that.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ben: Well, the minister had not finished.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Did you want the figures?

Mr. Ben: Yes, please.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The capital cost of providing six houses in Metro Toronto and one centre in each of the 10 Ontario judicial districts that have more than 1,000 arrests per annum is 16 times \$150,000—and we come up with \$2.4 million for a programme of this kind, dealing as it does with the chronic drunkenness offender.

Mr. Ben: Is that just the capital cost? That is just to set it up?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The annual operating cost—

Mr. Ben: Then you will have to vote annual operating costs?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The annual operating cost would be \$1.5 million.

Mr. Ben: One and a half million dollars per annum? We will save that keeping them out of jail.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, they are not. As Mr. Archibald pointed out, we are still only dealing here with 10 per cent of the total problem or five per cent of those we have handled, so on these figures we still have not tackled the sweeping up, as it were, of the non-chronic drunkenness offender, have we? There are no hangover havens in these figures, are there?

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is a variant of this type of programme, I think, in my riding whereby some of the inmates at the Monteith Industrial Farm who have been committed there for drug or alcohol offences are taken four days a week to the Northeastern Regional Mental Health Centre and are involved in a day-long programme there.

Is this programme something different to what is being proposed here? Is it the kind of thing that is done in many other areas of the province? What type of evaluation has been put on the programme so far? Is it one that is going to be expanded and used for other residents of these kind of institutions? Or is it pretty well limited to the northeast because of the facilities that are so close at hand at the Northeastern Psychiatric Hospital?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot answer that in particular.

Mr. Archibald: Mr. Chairman, this is a programme that actually was developed in co-operation with The Department of Correctional Services, and it is related to drug

users rather than alcohol users. They had a very sizable number of drug users, young drug users particularly, in the correctional institution, and we decided together to try to develop a programme whereby the inmate would be allowed to come to our treatment centre in the hospital and undergo group therapy, and treatment actually, while, if you will, still serving his sentence in the correctional institution. This is being evaluated very carefully, as a matter of fact, because this is quite a departure for handling this kind of person. We have a research person who is involved and will be doing an intensive evaluation and followup of this particular group of patients. In our terms, this is a pilot experimental project.

Mr. Ben: I just want to end by saying this: Alcoholism is a problem of major proportions. Mr. Archibald says we have 150,000 in Ontario that we probably have located. That is a good segment of our population.

A lot of large firms like Bell Canada, Kodak, Eaton's, Ontario Hydro, Union Carbide, Imperial Oil, Gulf, IBM, and perhaps Mr. Archibald could name half a dozen that do have some type of in-plant programme to deal with alcoholics and their big problems—absenteeism and things like that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have such a programme in the Ontario government.

Mr. Ben: You also have a programme aside from Ontario Hydro, do you?

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Ben: The suggestion I want to put forward is this: Why can we not make it compulsory for every firm in Ontario employing more than a certain number of men and women to set up, at their expense, a treatment programme with reference to alcoholics similar to the type that you have here in the government, in Ontario Hydro—and I know Bell Canada has had one for a long time.

Mr. Archibald: Yes, we have developed a lot of these programmes with these firms.

Mr. Ben: I am very happy to hear that, but why can we not make it compulsory or mandatory? You make it compulsory that the firms insure their workers, if they have so many, for OHSIP and OHSC. It is compulsory that employers do a lot of things. It has been established that it is to their interest to treat their employees rather than fire them because it takes so much time and money to retrain a new one.

Most firms have a large investment in their employees, especially firms like Bell and Kodak, where the people employed have special technical training or are given special training on the job. Can we not compel these firms to institute, under the guidance of the Ontario drug and addiction research foundation, a programme to look after their own and make it almost an offence—as much an offence to fire an alcoholic as it is to refuse to hire a person because of race, colour, creed or sex?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would have to think about that. One of the great problems obviously is coming to grips with your definitions of such a programme and how to enforce such a programme. The other is that if we are to deal with the problems in terms of health, of course, we are in the midst of a governmentally-run health system.

I know that Mr. Archibald and the foundation encourage this in private industry but—

Mr. Ben: They have been doing a good job.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —the compulsory aspect I would find difficult to come to grips with. How do you envisage the compulsion?

Mr. MacDonald: What are the hazards of compulsion, if any?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I suppose it becomes an internal tax of some sort, then inspection—I suppose we could make them fix people's teeth as well. We could have them—

Mr. MacDonald: Just a minute. It is a tax imposed on the company which has public spirit enough to do something about it, and it is a tax which the other company that does not do it, escapes. You get selective discrimination there.

For a moment I share with you sort of trying to grapple with this, but I am just curious as to what, if any, hazards there are.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think there are any hazards but I just—

Mr. MacDonald: If there are no real hazards it would seem to me that something approaching to accelerate the development of these programmes would have merit.

Mr. Ben: These people are a public responsibility.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not quarrelling with it, I am just trying to—

Mr. Ben: Everybody's responsibility; our responsibility, your responsibility—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —to grapple with it. We move down from Bell Telephone and IBM and then we move down to the law firm with four lawyers and 12 secretaries.

Mr. MacDonald: They may even have greater needs.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have a hunch that the problem probably relates to the size and organization of the industry.

Mr. Ben: I have made that clear. I could set a figure but obviously there must be an optimum and minimum figure insofar as employment is concerned.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We can deal with this essentially in industrial-occupational. But you leave me groping when I picture it running down the scale.

Mr. Ben: You need only exempt certain firms when it comes to certain benefits of those employees. I am not saying that is good. I am saying we do it. We have to reach the figure, perhaps, of the small firm where people are treated more like families than on an employee-employer relationship.

It might be simpler to deal with the problem because then they could get almost personal attention to their problem through the assistance of Mr. Archibald's department. I do not think it is an impossibility.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but you still would not be dealing with the bad faults of those employed—

Mr. Ben: So what—we give them a fast ball when we tax them. When we make them collect taxes for you, we give them a fast ball. When we make them collect unemployment insurance when they are employers, we give them a fast ball. When we make them collect and remit sales tax we give them a fast ball.

We have made it a condition of carrying on business in this province in this country that a firm exercises certain obligations or responsibilities to the general public. Is putting one more responsibility on them going to drive them out of business? In fact, it is intended to save them money because the Bell and Kodak and Eaton's and Hydro and Union Carbide and all these people must have come to the conclusion that it is cheaper to treat the people, look after them and keep them on the job than it is to fire

them and go through the process of having to spend \$100,000 or \$200,000 to train the people the way they want.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think the answer—there are two things that I react to immediately and that is—

Mr. Ben: Compulsion!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, one is from the practical point of view. Although these firms are very large and have large numbers of employees, taken in the total picture of those employees of the province, you are still dealing with 10 per cent of the population. Perhaps, Mr. MacDonald, you would know the union—how much of our working population is industrially unionized in the way that these large firms are, where the plant has its own general health services?

Mr. MacDonald: Let us get at another tactic. When we moved into hospital insurance, it was argued that the reason they made it obligatory for hospital insurance premium to be deductible for all employee groups of over 15 was that it immediately resulted in about 70 per cent of the population being involved and that established a viable base for the whole plan.

Okay, if you operate on that basis, say taking 15 plus employees, let me take another tactic following the line that we have been discussing. How much time, effort and money is put into promoting the proposition—if one shies away for a moment at the proposition of compulsion—of getting in touch with every employer who has over 15 employees—you can get that readily from your hospital insurance—and saying to them “Look, this is what other companies are doing. This is how much it costs them. This is how much it saved them.”

Rather forcefully—you know, it is that old moral suasion—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Does it make sense—and I am only asking this—if, I think we would all admit we are dealing here with a problem of health; we should segregate into some sort of half-baked never-never land between voluntary activity and total compulsion in service in relation to one particular disease?

Mr. MacDonald: You were speaking in commendation a moment ago about what IBM and Bell were doing. Now what is it—a half-baked programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh no!

Mr. MacDonald: Presumably it is a programme that meets their immediate needs and if it is a person—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It suits their particular industrial situation, where they have a large number of workers in a particularly controlled environment, controlled relationship to the company. I would have a feeling—and here I might be speaking for you—that if we are going to get into a system where we would apply compulsion to set up a voluntary—not a voluntary—an in-firm development insofar as the care of alcoholism on site is concerned, this is inconsistent with the overall approach to health services.

Mr. MacDonald: Let me come back to my question. How much promotional effort, if any, has been put? Has the foundation responded and worked with only those companies that came to you?

Mr. Archibald: At the present time, Mr. Chairman, we have been working directly with 50 corporations in largely Metropolitan Toronto. Of these, 37 have established formal policies among their employee force. Now the policies simply are stipulated, recognizing alcoholism as an illness to be handled in the same fashion as they would handle any other illness among the employee force, but with one further stipulation with respect to alcoholism—that opportunity be provided to the employee who is so identified for treatment.

In the event that the patient—or the employee, I am sorry—does not accept this opportunity for treatment, then of course, the employer has the managerial recourse either to discharge or what have you. This is what is known generally as constructive coercion; that is the term we have given to this policy. Within this framework we have been providing a special industrial treatment programme, if you will, for this group.

Under this kind of a framework, the results of treatment in the first year, actually in our follow-up programme, are rather startling. They are operating at about the 80 per cent recovery level—the re-establishment within—which is about the highest figure I have seen in any of the North American operations at least.

Mr. MacDonald: Would it be fair to say that out of your experience there has emerged a pattern?

Mr. Archibald: Yes.

I am back to my point, Mr. Minister, a pattern on which some promotion could take place. Leaving aside for the moment the compulsory aspect of it, there may be some companies that have 15 employees and they are scattered all over hell's half acre so you could not really come to grips with it, but my guess is that the great majority of the employees are relatively close at hand, or quite frankly the relatively few people who need this assistance could be brought together.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think you would quarrel with the fact that what we are dealing with here—and I am not quarrelling for a minute with how much we should try and do in this field—is a particular industrial environment which is practical to a certain point and ceases to be practical, I would think, at about the level—and I am certainly no expert in this field—where the same firms provide a general health service, do they not? I mean, despite our hospitalization, I mean our OHSIP and OHSC, these larger firms, as distinct from the dry cleaner on the street, usually have a health office or a health clinic or some service available for employees. I would think—I agree with you—we should encourage this as much as we can, but if you project to me, using compulsion, to force this down to the 15 employee level, to me that raises the more fundamental question than that we are dealing here with one health service, which surely cannot be fragmented from our total universal scheme?

Mr. MacDonald: If you want to choose 50, I imagine very readily you could extrapolate perhaps by punching the right push button on the computer, the companies that have over 50 employees in the Province of Ontario through OHSIP and then you could map out a programme. And as I envisage the thing—and I am only sort of thinking out loud here because we just got going on this and I had never given any particular thought to it before—it would seem to me that then if you developed a great many of "voluntary" programmes within these plants, the net result is that five years from now you would have reached the maximum you need in your public programmes that you are now engaged in.

In short, you would reduce the proportions of the problem that ultimately you are going to have to pick up completely out of the public purse, and if you can go back to the management and say to them: "Look, it is in

your interest to do this, because you are going to save money quite apart from the public purse saving money ultimately"—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right, this is exactly what Mr. Archibald and his foundation are endeavouring to do. My guess is and here we are down to the practical side, the cutoff point would probably be closer to 500 than it would be to 50.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, I want—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And I have just been shown some of the pamphlets that relate to this programme of selling and pushing insofar as major industries are concerned. I would again come back to the point—I expect it is about the cutoff that a particular firm or industry has in relation to having a nurse on duty or having a doctor on call.

Mr. Ben: Well, Mr. Minister, I want to tell you—and I say this with all due respect—that since you assumed the portfolio this is the first time that I have heard you take a reactionary or doubting Thomas stance. Forgive me for saying that. Always before you said, "Well, all it can do—it sounds reasonable—maybe we will try to find out what the score is." Never have I heard you be such a doubting Thomas.

Mr. Minister, it stands to reason that we cannot compel every firm in Ontario to carry out the programme. Some place you must reach a point where it would not be economically feasible. It is feasible for the Bell or a lot of these large firms we have mentioned or the Ontario government to set up a programme because they can hire five, 10 or 15 people who will deal solely with that programme and they can do it most economically because those people will be dealing with an optimum number—100, 200, 300—whatever the number may be, but large numbers so it costs only so much per patient per day.

Obviously we cannot ask a firm with only five employees to hire two or three people to look after the one problem drinker in the plant. Perhaps we cannot ask a firm with only 10 employees or 15 employees to do it. There is a principle involved. I think I mentioned many years ago in this House—and I may have repeated it—the programme that they had in Europe, in Germany specifically, to look after the handicapped who were disabled in the war.

People were blind or paraplegic. I saw all kinds. Under the law there, every firm had

to employ a certain percentage of those handicapped people, a certain percentage regardless of what their condition was. Those that could not find the number of people requisite, or chose not to, had to pay at that time the equivalent of \$1,200 a year to the government and the government used that money to create employment or look after those who did not have jobs.

And I recall having been in Germany some four to five years after that and at that time industry was lobbying the government to reduce the amount of the levy from \$1,200 to \$600 on the grounds that they could not find enough handicapped people to satisfy their quota.

Now Mr. Minister, what we could do here with the small firms who could not afford to set up a programme of that nature is levy a certain amount which would go into the coffers of the government, which the government could then use to look after the problem of those small firms who could not afford to hire a full-time department. That is just an idea. It is a suggestion, but being a doubting Thomas does not become you, Mr. Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I will finish my side of it off by saying that I am not in the position of denigrating or in any way downgrading, and certainly I encourage the work of Mr. Archibald in the foundation, in their proselytizing in this field, whether they are dealing with 48 or 50 firms today who have 10,000 employees, and maybe tomorrow they can get down to firms dealing with 10,000 or 5,000. Great; that should go ahead, but I have been perhaps sufficiently brain-washed by the member for York South and his colleagues to find your approach really horse-and-buggy.

If we are going to deal with this as a health programme we have to get the ingredient of universality into it and the idea of this mixed voluntary do-good bit in between I do not think will work any more in this particular segment of health care than it would have worked if we had done it in relation to dental care and all health care.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, I have been advocating making it compulsory—

Mr. MacDonald: Dental care?

An hon. member: For years; and you have won your argument.

Mr. MacDonald: Sometimes the new convert misses the complexities of the situation.

Mr. Chairman: Any more discussion on this particular subject?

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, there have been some studies under way, I understand, among high school students in the province. I know there is one that has been made up in my own town of Timmins. I am not sure if the results are tabulated and released yet or not. I believe that there is one among high school students in Toronto to parallel one that had been done earlier.

What is being found out in these particular studies? Is drug use on the rise, and if it is is there any information as to why and are there any tentative solutions coming forward from the foundation as to ways of combating this problem?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, could I intervene here with one caution before Mr. Archibald answers, and that is these studies are highly sensitive. They affect themselves. Mr. Archibald will know, in his judgement, how far he can go in answering them; but questioning some of these studies, which are highly sophisticated, before the results are completed and known can have a destructive effect on the studies themselves.

Mr. Ferrier: Maybe if we can find out—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I say that to—

Mr. Ferrier: —what the purpose of the studies is it could be a good starting point.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would be very happy if we just did not talk about them at all, because we get a feed-in, a backward feed-in from the public which will affect the result of the studies themselves.

Mr. Ben: Just having the study—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All I am doing is suggesting to Mr. Archibald that this is an obvious concern of, I am sure, his and mine, that we do not want to foul up very sensitive studies by the input of publicity itself. Having said that: Mr. Archibald!

Mr. Archibald: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: I think I could speak briefly, perhaps, on one of the major studies referred to, actually a study conducted in Metropolitan Toronto, the results of which are now in and have been released and published. This was a comparison between 1968 and 1970, using the same instruments, the same sample—the same school sample—and so on.

The overall trend, of course, has been upward in the last two years, in virtually all categories of major drug use. With reference to the one in Timmins, actually this is being done, I understand, with the local board of education. We have a fairly large number of requests from boards of education throughout the province to conduct studies in their particular school system.

Each one seems to believe that probably their district is somewhat different, or radically different if you will, from other areas. We are, frankly, not encouraging too much of an extension of these kinds of studies because I think we have a pretty reasonable picture now of what the trend is in this field, both in terms of major urban areas as well as the rural areas, if there are many left in Ontario. However, if a particular board of education is most anxious to undertake a study, then we do assist them in formulating it, and developing the instruments to use and training them in how to conduct a particular study.

In some areas it is used, frankly, as an educational instrument, if you will, in order to assist the local board in focussing attention on a particular problem and thereby assisting in the development of the necessary training facilities for the teachers to begin to handle the problem, hopefully more effectively within the school system. There is both the research and the educational component in some of these studies.

Mr. Ferrier: Just to follow this along a little bit, you mentioned in the Toronto study that the use seems to be growing. It would appear that drugs are something that are with us and we are going to have to cope with them in society for probably a long time. Is there any way of minimizing the use of it, or is this a phenomenon of modern culture? Is there any antidote? This is probably a question that really nobody has the answer on, but perhaps there is some direction to communities and concerned parents as to how to cope with this problem.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Archibald, about six weeks ago, gave a very fundamental speech on this subject. Perhaps it should receive wider circulation. Maybe all your speeches are fundamental, but I remember reading that one.

Mr. Archibald: I will be glad to send it to the members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you know the speech I am thinking of, about six weeks ago, in answer to just that?

Mr. Archibald: Dealing with the community aspects?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The community and the totality of the relationship between drugs and the community itself.

Mr. Ferrier: I would be glad to receive a copy of it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pitman.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): To follow up on this—Mr. Archibald, is it?

Mr. Archibald: Yes.

Mr. Pitman: We cannot hear very well back here.

Mr. Archibald: I am sorry. I am trying to talk in this thing as well.

Mr. Pitman: It seems to me that this area of drug use has been now researched to death and I am looking now for some package, some overall strategy whereby a community can cope with the problem. It seems to me we are beginning to realize it is a many splendoured thing.

I wonder, for example, is there now a course in drug use which is accepted among all the boards of education which The Department of Education distributes? Is it tied in with some kind of educational television activity which might very well inform the whole community of what is being learned in the schools? Is there some kind of strategy for every hospital in terms of having some kind of crisis centre associated with its out-patients' area?

In other words, is there, for example, a strategy for having some kind of on-street workers in every community, which has a crisis intervention centre, to talk down drug users and generally deal with them outside the hospital setting? Is there some concept of hostel arrangements which are appropriate for each community? What I am trying to get at is I wish that somewhere we did not have every municipality staggering from one problem to another and the funding being just as fragile—because the minute the crisis centre goes out of existence—I think, probably, if you know Peterborough you know what I am talking about—if the crisis centre goes out of existence we all rush together and try to drag something together to keep it going and restore funding. The hostel

arrangements drop, so we all run around to try to find some of the group of people who are going to put this together again.

It seems to me that, with a problem that has been with us now for five or six years, and where there has been, as I say, this "researched-to-death" kind of thing, there should be some kind of co-ordinated, correlated kind of strategy for a large city such as Toronto and for a smaller or middle-sized city, such as Orillia or Barrie, or some other Ontario community. I wonder how far you are along in the direction of correlating all of these thrusts in terms of coping with the drug problem.

Mr. Archibald: Mr. Chairman, the member for Peterborough embodied, I think, a whole strategy, if you will, within his broad question. Dealing with—can I break it down just a little? First of all, I think the major thrust in terms of approaching this problem has to be, basically, a community thrust. It is not going to be solved in Peterborough or anywhere else by programmes designed down here particularly. It has to be very much related to the local operation in the community.

In terms of the educational component, per se, and you spoke of the school education particularly, the foundation does prepare and work with The Department of Education in developing the material for the school system, the material being based on research and research findings from our organization and elsewhere.

In addition to this—and this material is circulated via The Department of Education to all of the school systems throughout the province—we work in a local area with boards of education. Boards of education vary, of course, in terms of their interest and concern and the particular priority they are going to give to this question at any point in time. Of course, they vary in accordance with the kinds of resources they have, the teacher resources and so on. Nonetheless, we work directly with boards of education, starting where they are at really, and developing a strategy within each system designed for that local community. This strategy usually, of course, involves such things as making sure that the teachers are perfectly familiar with the material that is available and secondly, providing them with basic training of an attitudinal nature, really, because this one of the basic matters in attempting to cope with this drug-use phenomena within the school system.

The education programme is both factually based and is zeroing in on the problems—the attitudinal problems within the teaching operation within a classroom and coping with this particular problem.

That is one facet of what I would call the formal educational front. In addition to this, of course, in all of the areas throughout the province, we have extensive what we would call community-based educational programmes, and these are designed to get at a wide variety of individuals.

I think one of the major areas, and one of the major problems that we have found in this whole field, is that the young people are far ahead of the adults in terms of knowledge. Therefore, we have concentrated considerably in attempting to bridge this gap, at least on a fact basis, so that the parents begin at least to know some of the argot, some of the jargon, to know the difference between pot and hash and know what amphetamines are—and the kids talking on speed, why this is a dangerous kind of thing. The emphasis is really to try to bridge the gap in knowledge between the parents and the younger generation.

This becomes a very real instrument, of course, of opening up the whole process of communication between parents and young people, because this is a thing that parents are concerned about very, very directly. It can be used as a very basic instrument in opening up this whole area, which is fundamentally important.

In terms of the hospitals, yes, we have been working with Ontario Housing Association and with various other dimensions in an attempt again to relieve the anxiety in part on the part of many of the staffs of general hospitals in dealing with crisis situations. We have set out a format that has gone, via the OHA and Canadian Hospital Association, right across the country. Specifically it has gone to all of the general hospitals and, very particularly, to the emergency sections, setting out the simple format on how to handle a drug crisis situation when it presents itself at the emergency of a general hospital. In addition, we have back-up courses or seminars for general physicians and the helping establishment. I have touched on a number of aspects and, I think, relating to a number of questions which you raised.

Mr. Pitman: Yes, the thing that bothers me—

Mr. Archibald: Well—

Mr. Pitman: I am sorry, you have more?

Mr. Archibald: Yes, in addition, there are some of the back-up services, the development of which you identified as crisis intervention centres.

Mr. Pitman: Right!

Mr. Archibald: This has been a phenomenon actually that occurred last year or so, but we are finding now that apparently the need for crisis intervention per se seems to be—

Mr. Pitman: It is waning.

Mr. Archibald: —waning. The young people have developed a remarkable capacity for handling this drug crisis situation among themselves and, in fact, some of the young people are very helpful in educating the staffs at general hospitals.

Now the need is turning, in part at least, to zeroing in on some of the real drug-hurt kids; those who have really got hung up on some of the harder drug substances. The speed phenomena is something that has really just emerged in the last year or so and this is a very difficult kind of area.

Mr. Pitman: Particularly among younger children.

Mr. Archibald: We have a special programme now that we have designed in an attempt to find out how to begin to cope with the hard-core speed user, and this is in our London area. Here again, until we get real fundamental knowledge as to how to cope with this, there is not much point, I do not think, in setting up too many of these specific kinds of centres.

Mr. Pitman: I am very pleased to hear you are moving in this direction, because it seems to me of everything I have seen in the area of drugs, there has been so much on an ad hoc basis, with each community attempting, not exactly to cope but just simply to gather together in a very unsophisticated way, enough resources to be afloat and that is all.

I was just thinking that what you were saying before, I felt was so right, that we have done a lot of research and there are certainly some certain directions and strains and patterns which are beginning now to emerge. What I am looking for, really, on the provincial level, is some kind of help to local communities as to what they really need to deal with this kind of a situation.

I think the local people in a sense are defining in many cases what their local problems are. But I think in many cases they do not have the answer and, as a result, much of this research is the old problem. The research is done at the centre and the people out in the field cope, and too often by the time they get the results of the research they have made too many mistakes, too many people have suffered, too many kids have gone off the tracks. I think this is the fear I have.

To what extent has your operation dealt with this problem, as they are doing in the United States, where they are using young people, taking young people virtually out of school, teenagers and using them to talk to other kids on the street; that is actually using users to help these, and doing it very effectively, I understand, in New York City and Philadelphia and other places.

Mr. Archibald: We have a sizable number of young people actually on staff directly related to this. As a matter of fact, all our street workers so called, if you will, are essentially young people, or youngish in appearance at least.

Mr. Pitman: If you do not mind, Mr. Chairman, just one or two more questions, the other problem I see is the many splendoured problem of trying to cope with all of these needs. But the financing seems to be terribly ad hoc, that is, you go to one department for this thing, you go somewhere else for something else. It just seems to be a pattern of chasing from one departmental jurisdiction to another, with Social and Family Services involved here, Health, Education, and so on.

I was wondering if it is not time that you centralized the financing of all the drug needs of a community, so you know exactly where to go; how much can be involved; how much a municipality pays into it, what is done by the province, and what is done by the local municipality. I think the time has come surely that the experimental period is over. As my colleague says, we are going to have drugs with us for quite some time. It is an existing phenomenon which is not going to disappear tomorrow. It is not time that we centralized all the funding, both the capital costs in terms of setting up drug addiction centres and the cost of changing your hospital, so that you can take in some of the people who are the hard-core cases who are really hung up, as well as what could be called the

more sophisticated on-the-street kind of informal education which goes on outside the schools and at the universities.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we can accept the challenge to co-ordinate. I think it is about \$12.5 million goes out each year, not in research but in the programme spending of the department in relation to drugs—

Mr. Pitman: It is federal, too.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —and alcoholism. Pardon?

Mr. Pitman: The federal government gets involved in this thing, too.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: To what extent I cannot tell you. I do not think any financial—

Mr. Pitman: I guess it is the hostel arrangements that they get into. But Social and Family Services get involved as well.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: OHSC is one group where we have a number of projects—about 22 of them I notice, and about 28 more are developing. The psychiatric hospitals, the Addiction Research Foundation itself, the public health branch and the local health branches, The Departments of Education, Social and Family Services, so we have a—

Mr. Pitman: It is a real pot-pourri when you try to—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is supportive. The projects are tested. The money goes very carefully to those situations which seem viable, if they are experimental or if they are local. But I cannot quarrel with the fact that when the programme is large enough when you are dealing with \$12.5 million, that co-ordination is the word. I do not think we need unification or I do not think we need administration.

Mr. MacDonald: Is that \$12.5 million in addition to the \$6.9 million going to the addiction foundation or including it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No; that is the full amount.

Mr. MacDonald: The full amount. Could I just zero in on that for a moment? Quite frankly, I suppose this takes in drugs as well as the alcoholism problem, but I do not know whether I can ask the minister and through him to Mr. Archibald a frank question. To what extent is the work of the addiction foundation limited by the availability of funds? In short, could the addiction foundation use \$20

or \$25 million rather than \$6.9 million and use it effectively? I really mean effectively.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): They are all blushing!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, you name anything in The Department of Health where we could not use more money. You know, for retarded children or any number of things. I do not quarrel with the question being asked, but of course there is nothing in this department, and maybe all the departments of government, that could not use more money.

Mr. MacDonald: Well if you can use more money—I come back to something which my colleagues and I have raised many times and as a new minister I throw it to you despite the accusations of the hon. member for Humber that you have manifested your basic Tory reactionary side, I would like to hope that the other side would be paramount for a little longer. The suggestion that we implement in the Province of Ontario a proposition—to get back to the alcoholic problem for a moment—that for every dollar that is spent on advertising a dollar is contributed to a fund that is available for coping with the social problems created by the consumption of alcohol. And I have yet to see any convincing evidence that this would not be a workable proposition.

It would on one hand be a disincentive to the advertising—and quite frankly I do not think we would be any poorer off for that—and secondly it would provide more funds. You have just conceded that greater funds could be used if one takes this area of alcoholism and this area alone, to really grapple with the problem. If one compares the \$6.9 million that is going to the addiction foundation with the revenue that the government gets from the sale of alcohol it is a pretty shocking kind of comparison.

I think any industry that is engaging in advertising as extensively as it is, advertising which really is not useful in the normal sense, if it was faced with the obligation of putting in a dollar into the funds to cope with the social problems created by it, its use, for every dollar they spent on advertising, it would be a rattling good proposition.

Mr. Martel: May I follow up—

Mr. Chairman: Just a minute! Mr. Randall, and then Mr. Ferrier; and then you can come in Mr. Pilkey.

Mr. MacDonald: I would like to see a reaction from the minister, if there is anybody else—

Mr. Chairman: I know, but the idea is there are other people here wanting to speak for the last 20 minutes.

Mr. S. J. Randall (Don Mills): Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister and perhaps Dr. Archibald, I think the work you are doing is very dedicated and I see, as the member for York South does, that many millions of dollars are going to have to be spent to even touch the drug problem with our young people today. I am amazed when I see drugs coming in here illegally and the peddlers are caught and the criminal Code means they get anywhere from six months to six years and they are free to go, start over again.

With the kind of money involved, they can afford to go to the can for six years and have a holiday, especially when they get movies at night and television and visits over the weekend and all the things that go with it. And I wonder if it is not time that our Criminal Code is responsible for some of the things you find yourself coping with today. I say if a man is a non-user of drugs and is peddling drugs he should get a life sentence because he is peddling living death. And your institution will continue to grow as long as he is free.

If a man is using drugs, then the man is sick, he needs the money, he would do anything. This man should be put away long enough that he is cured, if he goes back again he gets a little longer cure. Do you not think this would stop some of the difficulties you are having to cope with today? Do you not think our Criminal Code should be changed, both federally and provincially, to make it mandatory that a life sentence be given to a man peddling drugs, or living death if he is not a user, because our kids in the high schools today are buying drugs off people who do not use them?

I have been in contact with two or three families that have drug problems. They brought their problems to me, I got the youngsters in institutions and the youngsters who are peddling these drugs to them do not take them themselves.

It seems to me that we can continue spending millions and millions of dollars looking after these youngsters but unless we stop the peddlers we are never going to get very far and the problem of money will be never-ending. I think the member for York South is right, how much money are we putting in, I think that pot is limitless as

long as the Criminal Code is such that these people can peddle drugs and as they are non-users they will continue to do it for a dollar.

Perhaps the minister has some views on this, but in my view I think we are too lenient on these users and you see them being caught with millions of dollars worth of drugs every day. They get a few months or a few years sentence and away they go.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, Mr. Chairman, my first reaction to the question is to avoid answering it to this extent, that I would hate to see myself or the officials of my department reaching into the fields of public debate on the Criminal Code. This is not avoiding the issue, but I do think it is important that we do recognize in Canada that some responsibilities are responsibilities of all the people, all Canadians, as expressed in the Criminal Code, and that for good or ill at the moment we stick constitutionally to our field, which is health.

The question is extremely pertinent and valid to all of us as Canadians, but in dealing with The Department of Health estimates in this particular province, I do not really feel that a discussion of the code is appropriate.

Mr. Randall: I would like to tell the minister I quite agree with him, but he will be back here next year with his estimates and the same problem will be with us. It is not going to go away because we are building institutions such as Mr. Archibald is operating, and many other people, and pouring money in, if we do not get to the source of these problems. It is obvious that you do not set the Criminal Code—it is not set just in the provinces—but I simply say that we are striking at the heart of the situation.

I do not think there is a man in this room if his youngster came home a drug user that tomorrow he would not want to strangle the fellow who sold him or her the drugs. You would want to do it with your own bare hands and I have seen some of these youngsters. It seems to me that unless there is some recommendation on the amount of money we are spending here with reference to the Criminal Code both federally and provincially, we will be back next year looking for twice as much money to do twice as much for the young people.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to follow up on the point that the member for York South made, and the member for Don Mills too I suppose.

I think this is a legitimate analogy anyway on what the member for Don Mills said, you know, he wants to invoke the Criminal Code to some severity in terms of tackling the problem of drugs. But it appears to me that in essence the governments are the pushers of alcohol and yet we cannot come to grips with that. The reason we cannot come to grips with it is because we are not providing enough money to deal with it adequately in my view.

Now \$6.9 million of the total revenue that the government receives from alcohol is very insignificant. It is a large sum to you and I, but in terms of your revenue it is a very insignificant sum. I think there are many municipalities across this province and people who are prepared to do voluntary work but they need the money to set up the organizations within the various municipalities to deal with it. And I know I have personally been involved in this situation for the last year or year and a half.

Every meeting that I go to, when the crunch really comes down, it comes down on the side of money. Where do we get the resources so that we can deal adequately in assisting people who have become addicted to alcohol? And it has been going on for about a year and a half now. Your man is in there, I forget his name at the moment, but he is there, a fine chap, can tell us what we might do.

But when you say to him: "Well, look, my friend, how much money is the provincial government prepared to put in?" He says, "Well, that is a little out of my field, you had better see the Minister of Health or my friend over here from the alcoholic research." He says, "I just cannot make that kind of commitment." Well, this goes on and people get somewhat frustrated, you have 50 people in a room sitting there, everybody wanting to make a contribution, but the money is not available.

We have brought in industry. They sat down and everyone will say that they are concerned. There is a concern with General Motors, there is a concern with Dunlop, there is a concern with this firm and that firm, but nobody seems to come up with the money.

I think that if we are really going to come to grips with this we have got to provide the resources, and I want to suggest to the minister that the amount of money that your department is spending to combat this problem is inadequate and let us face it, it is a problem that should be dealt with. I have

seen families destroyed over alcoholism, you know the wife cannot tolerate it any longer and she leaves, and the breakup of the family, and the children end up with the Children's Aid Society or in some foster home.

All these kinds of social problems are with us, and let me tell you very frankly that they were not with us just yesterday either, they have been with us for a long time, and the government in all its years in office has not come to grips with that problem. It is such a basic, fundamental problem, not easy to resolve, but it is one that can be resolved if the resources are put to the disposal of the people, and you will get innumerable volunteers who are prepared to work in this area if you give them the facilities to work with.

I do not know what else to say except I just do not think that you are putting enough money into this in relation to the revenues that you are receiving from the sale of alcohol. It is just a great revenue field for you. If you are partially responsible for creating the problem by making it available then I think you have got to assist these people and help them in any way that is possible.

Mr. MacDonald: What is the minister's reaction to my dollar-for-dollar suggestion, if I may sharpen the question, which I did not get answered, Mr. Chairman? The member for Don Mills wants to take us off and get at the Criminal Code in order to cope with the drug situation, but let us stay back home. Here in Ontario the government and the liquor industry are the pushers of alcohol.

Mr. Pitman: That is what the kids see.

Mr. MacDonald: The government and the liquor industry. All I am suggesting to you is that you get at those who are pushing alcohol—if I may use the analogy of the terms that are used in pushing drugs—by saying: "Okay, for every dollar you spend on advertising you put a dollar in to cure the social problem."

Would that be a fair proposition? We would be tackling it back home instead of going off to the Criminal Code, which—the minister is correct—is irrelevant in terms of these estimates.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: My reaction would be that the social purposes can be best met by taxation, period. Taxation of advertising involves the debate which has never made me very happy, because to the same extent that you would tax the dollar on liquor, I would tax the advertising on Mr. Pilkey's Cadillac.

Mr. Pilkey: Not both of them? Just the one?

Mr. MacDonald: You are confusing the issue.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You know the arguments pro and con, but the tax on advertising as a project has been one that has been debated, I would judge, all over the western world—or the capitalistic world, if you want to call it that—for generations. It has never really been accepted because it is “whose ox is being gored?”

Mr. MacDonald: The minister is now confusing the issue. We have now reached the stage where we are saying, for example to the tobacco companies, “You cannot advertise.”

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, maybe that.

Mr. MacDonald: Okay. What I am saying is a halfway measure. For every dollar—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We do not need a halfway measure.

Mr. MacDonald: For every dollar that you, the liquor industry spend to advertise, you put a dollar to cope with the social problems created by use of alcohol.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What it has always bumped up against, as far as I can recall, when you get into a tax on advertising is the selective fact—we would allow General Motors super Cadillac to be advertised all over the place and not some other luxury, whether it be a drug or not. We then get, of course, into the fringes of freedom of the press and that whole argument.

My own personal reaction is to accept—I mean if you want to accept the proposition that we can tremendously increase the amount of expenditures we have in this field I would say no to your tax on advertising, but be prepared to debate taxes period.

Mr. MacDonald: It is not a tax on advertising, it is a voluntary proposition.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: I think we have to keep some semblance of order here because different men have indicated to me that they would like to speak on this very sensitive subject. I am going to call them in order. Mr. Ferrier, Mr. Smith, Mr. Ben, Mr. Martel and Mr. Pitman have indicated they want to speak.

Mr. Pilkey: And I would like to put my name in.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, I have a situation here I would like to raise and get some information on. It springs out of a letter written to my colleague, the member for High Park.

The young chap says that he was a research subject in a project for the Addiction Research Foundation testing the prolonged effects of marijuana. He had a fall in June and hurt his back and was in the Toronto General Hospital. He signed himself out, was not able to work and went on welfare.

Shortly after Christmas he was approached by a Dr. Hicks, who inquired about a subject for the aforementioned programme. After an interview or two he was accepted as one of the subjects for it. I believe he passed through a physical examination and early in January, I gather, the testing began.

Now part of the programme, he says, was a motivation thing and they were paid for making a number of stools at \$2 a stool. Each stool was supposed to require half an hour to an hour's work and after further negotiation it did not seem to be sufficient. On two or three occasions there was a quarter added until, in the end, they were making \$2.75 for a stool. They were also given \$100 for staying, I think it was eight weeks, plus an extra \$50 for two more weeks.

This man, of course, complained of his back problem—that he could not make the required number of stools and so on. He kept mentioning it, but not too much was done about it. I believe he left after some six weeks when his back became unbearable. He said he went into the programme to get some money but he blew it anyway because of the utter boredom of living incommunicado. Then they gave him \$15 for a brain-wave test that he had done.

What went on in this programme? How many subjects were involved? What did they do beyond the making of these stools? Did they smoke marijuana during the whole period of time? Were they allowed out into the community, or were they kept in a place where they would have no other social contacts?

What were the reasons for the programme and were there sufficient results to make an evaluation of it? Was it a beneficial kind of programme? Was this the first time this was done by the Ontario Addiction Research Foundation and have other studies been done? Are more contemplated? Perhaps we could get some answers to these.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It raises the question I touched on earlier as to how much research we can do in this very sensitive field without spoiling its effect by opening it up, as it were, part way through and in the midst of the experimentation itself.

I know that your purposes in asking the questions are completely sincere. Would you accept speaking to Mr. Archibald about the questions, because as far as I know the particular experiment is not complete yet.

It is highly sensitive. It is courageous, in the best sense of the word. I could avoid answering your question, but rather than do that I would much prefer that you speak to Mr. Archibald about the particular case on the humanitarian grounds that caused you to raise it.

Mr. Ferrier: You think that answering some of these questions would jeopardize the particular—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no! We are doing experiments here in about as sensitive an area as we can. My hope is that there will be enough confidence in the members, such as yourself, that you would deal with Mr. Archibald—with, of course, my blessing I suppose—in the expectation that you get frank results without jeopardizing the sensitivity of the experiments themselves.

Mr. Ferrier: Well if that is the case, I am quite prepared to do that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. R. S. Smith.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of specific questions. The first one I would like to ask is, is the Addiction Research Foundation getting good co-operation from the general hospitals in the setting-up of particular treatment centres in conjunction with the outpatient services? Is there a general co-operation across the province from the general hospitals?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I mentioned a few minutes ago the 22 projects we have going and 28 more under—in any case, Mr. Archibald.

Mr. Archibald: Generally speaking, Mr. Chairman, yes. This varies, of course, from hospital to hospital, but generally speaking, I think the movement of the general hospitals into more effective co-operation in this field I think has been very considerable in the last

couple of years particularly and we have been working with them throughout Ontario. So I think my general answer would be yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But there are some areas of the province where the co-operation is not too great, and in these specific areas I suppose there are local problems which generate this.

Mr. Archibald: Yes. It is always a variable pattern actually. I think of one specific area where I think quite an outstanding contribution was made, St. Catharines in particular, where in co-operation with us they set up a crisis intervention centre within the hospital framework, the drug centre. A film was made of this, as a matter of fact, detailing the method of dealing with drug-hurt youngsters as they come into the hospital. This film was again taken by the Ontario Hospital Association and the Canadian Hospital Association and has been used extensively as a very practical training educational mechanism, if you will, throughout the general hospital system. This is just one example.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Has there been good reaction from the medical practitioners in the smaller hospitals to have one of their number who is particularly interested in this field and who is prepared to make himself available for instruction, if you would, or orientation toward the treatment of drug users?

Mr. Archibald: Again, Mr. Chairman, I would answer on a general basis. There has been really a remarkable shift, if you will, in the last two or three years.

Mr. R. S. Smith: There has been a change in attitude?

Mr. Archibald: Very much, yes. And this has been brought about, I think, in considerable measure by the avalanche of the drug problem, as it were. There has been a situation around which many of the health and social agencies in any given community have been able to crystallize and move in a much closer co-operative and co-ordinated framework than they were prepared to do so before. It has been used as this kind of a device, so there has been very considerable positive movement over the last couple of years.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The second question I have, Mr. Chairman, if I might, is in regard to the total budget for the foundation this year, which is \$6.9 million. What portion of that budget is being made available to community-orientated services?

Mr. Archibald: Grants-in-aid?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Some of them, I understand, are on the basis of trial and error, but is there an increase in the budget this year for that type of grant to community services?

Mr. Archibald: No. The amount being spent on grants-in-aid this year is approximately the same as last year. There are some 45 projects that have now gone through the grants-in-aid committee and will be supported this coming year, but it is approximately—

Mr. R. S. Smith: The same amount of dollars actually, and is that an increase in number of programmes?

Mr. Archibald: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Well as I understand it, Mr. Minister, many of these programmes over the past two or three years have been on a trial and error basis and the evaluation of the results of the programme have resulted in what the grant is the next year to those specific programmes. Some of them have been dropped, others have been taken on and some of them actually have been taken over by a local community effort, but I would like the minister to comment on this particularly since he is the man responsible for the dollars that go into this programme. Why has there not been an increase in this type of assistance? I think that this is the area that really many others have been referring to in a general way prior to my asking this question. On the grants-in-aid service, I think it was established here last fall during the estimates that there was a greater need for funds in that area and I think the then minister indicated to us that this year it would be a priority area.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, there has been an increase, as I understand it. The foundation itself is at \$6.9 million, the institute is at \$4.4 million and then the research grants are about \$1 million. The total exercise has increased and reaches a figure of around \$12.3 million.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, I understand there is a general increase in the costs of operating the foundation as well as the other areas that are involved, but in the one programme that is operated by the foundation—that is the grants-in-aid programme to local groups and agencies, some of which is on a trial

basis—there has been no increase in those grants for this fiscal year over last and this is the area that I question.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron advises me that although it is not broken out, the increase in that particular field is \$316,000.

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister of Health): Which is the same as last year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The same as last year?

Dr. Charron: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The amount of funds is the same as last year, and this is why I ask in this one specific programme under the Addiction Research Foundation why there has not been any increase at all. It is an area where I think it has been established that there is a much greater need, and I think this is what many of the other people here this evening were referring to when they were talking about the amount of dollars being made available at the local level. The member for Peterborough was talking about that.

You have a grants-in-aid programme which is separate from all your other programmes, even though it is included in the Addiction Research Foundation, and I think this is the area where local communities look for assistance to the government and to the foundation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I have not checked the figures, but I would judge it has about tripled in the last three years or so.

Mr. R. S. Smith: There was no programme four years ago, or very little.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We also pick up close to a quarter of a million in payments for control of drug abuse, which are grants handled by the department itself, through the six or seven different agencies I mentioned earlier.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I do not follow; I am sorry.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the department itself makes grants in relation to the hospital projects, the psychiatric hospitals, public health, education, social and family services, which are not—

Mr. R. S. Smith: But they are different and separate programmes to the one to which I refer?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are a whole mixture of programmes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But I am referring to the grants-in-aid programmes—those that are locally oriented and usually on the basis of, say, drop-in centres and this type of thing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, there is \$250,000 to what you might call fill in the gaps.

Mr. R. S. Smith: In other words, these local programmes can qualify under grants-in-aid and then make another application under payments for control of drug abuse? Is that correct?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know whether they can duplicate it or not, but they have an expanded supportive programme.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but I think that your payments for control of drug abuse are—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps Dr. Charron can be more specific than I can.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the \$225,000 was to provide funds for projects that would not ordinarily be assisted either by the Addiction Research Foundation or from any other source of support. These are the innovative projects that come from communities that may need an additional type of support that is not being provided at the present time. As the minister says, it is really \$316,000 from the Addiction Research Foundation plus the \$225,000 which is supplementing this in areas that ordinarily would not have received support but are considered desirable projects.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Maybe I could follow that with the question how much of that \$225,000 has been allocated up to this time?

Dr. Charron: Very little of it to the present time because the budget has just been tabled.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but if we are going to wait—you know, these programmes have to be allocated now; if they are going to be operable this summer they have to have the funds allocated prior to this.

Maybe I will follow that with this question. Has the \$225,000 been made available to the committee which decides on the distribution of the \$316,000 under the grant-in-aid programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The answer is yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Have they begun to allocate that amount of money?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Specifically I cannot say. Who is the chairman of that committee? Are you, Dr. Charron? The co-ordinating committee itself.

Dr. Charron: Yes, the co-ordinating committee. This money has been made available and projects are being received. The projects, as far as I know, have not been identified as accepted at the present time, but this is being processed.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The grant-in-aid money, though, has been allocated, is that correct?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The grants-in-aid programme of the foundation, yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: For the coming year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, which gives us our \$225,000, subject to the scrutiny or decision-making of the co-ordinating committee to distribute as it so decides throughout the year.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Was the grant-in-aid programme aware that it was going to have this other \$225,000?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes—well they do not have it. It is a double-barrelled sort of proposition.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Here is where we get into the whole area of how best to spend the money. There has been a decision made, or an allocation made, of \$316,000 under the grant-in-aid programme. Then there is another \$225,000 which is apparently aside from that programme, but which could be used to supplement that programme and none of it has been allocated so far. The \$316,000 has been allocated on the basis that that is all there is going to be, and then all of a sudden there is another \$225,000.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not all of a sudden. I mean, we are at the beginning of the year so far as—

Mr. R. S. Smith: But it is.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not picture any difficulty. For instance, within our hospital system, if we are moving in to 28 more different projects, those will be calling upon these funds, will they not? I can only say I

am advised that there will be no problem in allocating these funds to meet demands as they come in from a whole spectrum.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I am sure there will be no problem in getting rid of the funds. I am sure there are a lot of programmes which, when they know there is another \$225,000 available, will make application. The fact is that for those which have already made application, decisions have been made on their grants and the \$225,000 has been over here. How can you set up a total programme based on the total amount of money if those who make the decision are not—I should not say not aware because they may have been aware—but they are not too sure about what this other \$225,000 is going to be used for.

You say we have lots of time. I am sure we have lots of time to spend the money but do the people in the community have the time to set up the programmes for this summer? That is, right now and this is when most of this money in the grant-in-aid programmes is spent; it is through the summer months from the first of May to the middle of September or perhaps a little later. They have already been allocated and this \$225,000 has not been allocated yet. We are going to have half-programmes that might start in July or August.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is a problem common to any expenditure authorized by pay budgets and authorized by the Legislature's presumably accepting these estimates. I do not know how you would distinguish that from any other extension of a programme insofar as the capacity to spend and the allocation of new funds is concerned.

Mr. R. S. Smith: This is actually a seasonal programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I do not think so. Perhaps I could get some backing on this, but I think that this is not a seasonal programme we are dealing with. This is a general supportive programme in relation to that whole group of plans, whether it be education, social and family services. Perhaps Mr. Archibald could amplify. Is this seasonal or—

Mr. Archibald: No, some of the projects that are supported—just some—would have a high need, if you will, particularly in the summer months; some of the drop-in centres, for young drug users, for instance.

But generally speaking, naturally the grants-in-aid from the foundation go to half-way houses type of thing that are really not

seasonal, they are a continuous type of programme, but community based.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but a lot of the programmes that are directed toward the travelling youth and this type of thing in the summer, are seasonal.

Mr. Archibald: Yes, some of those are.

Mr. R. S. Smith: And this is the area where decisions have to be made early in the year and allocation of funds has to be made early in the year and much of this extra \$225,000, I am sure, could have been used in that type of programme and maybe will be yet.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Of course, it can be expected, generally speaking, from a departmental point of view, vis-à-vis the Treasurer, that having established this particular figure we will be able to hold it and hopefully enlarge it which means that we have it as part of our total programme. Whether it will be adequately disbursed quickly enough for this summer is a question which you may have some point, but I can only thereby point to the timing of the budget itself in the fiscal year.

But having built it in, of course, this will not be the case next summer.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: I am sorry the member for Don Mills left, because I was trying to carry on the point that he raised. Mr. Minister, if I may be permitted to correct you, your prime responsibility is to look after the health needs of the Province of Ontario. Our prime concern is to help you. Our secondary concern is to check the priorities that you set in looking after these needs and determining where and how are we going to find the money that you are asking for and whether it is the proper amount, to take into consideration all the circumstances.

So we are indeed concerned about the drug problem and it is immaterial whether it is a federal jurisdiction of the criminal code or not, because as you pointed out, it is a health problem.

It may be a criminal offence to use and sell marijuana. We may not interfere in the criminal aspect of it because it is within the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government but it is our concern because it is a health problem.

I sympathize with the member for Don Mills because I also believe that strong measures should be taken. I do not agree

that you are going to solve the problem by giving the sellers or pushers life imprisonment because at the present time anyone who trades in marijuana is a pusher, I believe he gets a minimum sentence of five years. On the other hand I believe there is a minimum sentence for pushers, as distinguished from users, I think there is a minimum sentence and it is rather stiff.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think the minimum sentence on this kind of thing is two years is it not?

Mr. Ben: But there is a minimum sentence, be it two years or five, there is a minimum sentence, and it is a considerable sentence of incarceration.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Anyway I am not going to follow that up.

Mr. Ben: Yes all right, so children or anybody using it, there is almost no sentence. As a matter of fact everybody is advocating, even the LeDain Commission for which I have nothing but disdain—I say disdain for LeDain—he is suggesting that we not even give them any kind of a penalty for a first offence. Now is this the way we are going to cut out the use of this weed? This particular department has set up—

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): What is this disdain for LeDain!

Mr. Ben: —an Addiction Research Foundation, has set up some kind of an experiment, and this is what—

Mr. Lawlor: They are a lot smarter than you are. Are you smarter?

Mr. Chairman: No personalities please, let the man speak.

Mr. Lawlor: No, I will not let him speak. He talks nonsense. I do not want to hear it. He always talks nonsense.

Mr. Chairman: We will follow our routine.

Mr. Ben: This particular department here is carrying out a research programme on marijuana, if my memory serves correctly, they were giving out wooden nickels or something as an inducement, I cannot remember exactly what it was but it was something like that. They said, "We are going to discover something new." For years and years and years people have been saying that marijuana is dangerous. At the same time the people who support my friend there, who he supports on the news media, were saying, "That is a

lot of nonsense, there is nothing wrong with marijuana, it is less harmful than alcohol if alcohol is used in great quantities. It is not addictive," and so on, "Why are you penalizing bids for using marijuana?"

So what happened? I remember I was stepped on by the very same member who just spoke, the hon. member for Lakeshore, when I said that there is something harmful in the use of marijuana. Another one of their illustrious members and I had quite an argument because I had the audacity to quote, among a lot of authorities that I quote, a woman by the name of Landers who writes advice to people in the newspaper, and she was giving some examples of what happened.

Mr. Pitman: She was the addiction centre.

Mr. Ben: All right, so what happens? Every day we hear of new experiments coming out. Dr. Wellesly Hall, the president elect of the American Medical Association, said that a study conducted by that particular association showed that smoking marijuana regularly causes impotence and birth defects. Impotence in men and birth defects in most women, mental deficiency in children. Dr. Aureli Beaulmes, it was a female I believe, co-ordinator of the programme on the non-medical use of drugs for the federal health department, said there is an association between depression and opting out of society and the use of marijuana.

Just recently two psychiatrists said in New York—these psychiatrists are from Philadelphia, Dr. Harold Kolansky, and Dr. William Moore—they carried out quite an extensive programme on the use of marijuana and their experiments show that normal children can suffer serious psychological disturbances following regular smoking of marijuana without the use of other drugs. This is some of the results of what the doctors reported:

Eight of the youngsters became psychotic while on marijuana and four attempted suicide, the 30 others showed less severe disturbances, ranging from paranoid delusions of grandeur to excessive sexual promiscuity. The new report challenged the widely-held view and previous research findings that marijuana is a relatively mild intoxicant causing serious psychological disturbances only in rare cases when a person takes a dose far stronger than he is accustomed to. "I expect that on psychiatric evaluation you will find changes of varying degrees in all regular pot users," Dr. Moore said.

Among typical cases described in a journal report are the following:

A 16-year-old girl who smoked marijuana three or four times a week for two years lost interest in her academic work, became hostile and impulsive and dropped out of school. She developed paranoid ideas about her brother-in-law's sexual interest in her and became severely depressed and tried to hang herself.

After she stopped smoking marijuana her depression and paranoia gradually disappeared. A 19-year-old boy who entered college with an A average and started smoking marijuana during his freshman year became apathetic, disoriented and depressed and failed all his courses. Early in the year he had gone to a college counsellor.

I think he found the problems were due to marijuana but he was told that the drug was harmless. As people on the radio continue to say in this city, day in and day out two or three years back:

Thirteen unmarried girls aged 13 to 22 became sexually promiscuous after using marijuana, seven became pregnant and four developed venereal disease. All showed symptoms of confusion, apathy, depression, feelings of isolation, listlessness and suicidal ideas. All 38 patients in the report were regular users of marijuana, smoking it at least twice a week using two or more cigarettes at a time.

Drs. Kolansky and Moore, who were on the staff of the Philadelphia Association for Psycho-analysis, noted that the severity of psychological difficulties were directly related to how much the youngsters smoked. They also found that the symptoms tended to disappear within months and sometimes weeks after the smoking had stopped. However, they added, several young patients who had been off marijuana for as long as two years still showed signs of disturbing of brain function.

Wherever we pick up a learned tome, a Medical Journal, we find them reporting the adverse reaction of using marijuana.

I remember when I first opposed this use of marijuana in 1967 I received the same kind of heckling I am receiving from the hon. member for Lakeshore. Everybody said it is not addictive. Evidence showed that most people on heroin started on lesser drugs. Everybody who starts marijuana does not necessarily end up on heroin, but it has been shown that people who start off on

marijuana have a tendency to go to more dangerous, if I may use the term, soft drugs, in other words, LSD and speed and amphetamines, and the like, which are exceedingly harmful.

I said at that time that they were selling it in all the schools and again it was poo-hooed. One reporter wrote a column ridiculing statements I made saying that in an investigation no reporter, no intelligent reporter, would have fallen for the baloney that I printed, except most of the stuff came out of their paper.

At any rate what has happened? What do you read? The pusher—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Ben: Like the guy you hear interjecting, who would like to see our kids hooked on this stuff. They will always interject and ridicule.

Mr. Lawlor. Do not be an ass!

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Lawlor: Order be damned!

Mr. Ben: What do you hear? The RCMP have reported that in 1970 the arrests for the use of hashish doubled in 1970 over that of 1969, and were four times as great as they were in 1968.

A lawyer addressing a conference put on by the Anglican Church—anyway Dr. McClure was there—said that there are about 2,000—I have the figure somewhere—2,000 pushers. I am sorry he said there was a pusher in every school. He also pointed out that it cost the government—your government because you pay the cost of administration of justice—from \$20,000 to \$30,000 to prosecute each case of drug abuse, or breach of the drug law down at the city hall.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): You are a lawyer and you have never been there.

Mr. Ben: I disagreed with him.

You consider the number of times you go up for remands and the number of people who are released there; he says it runs into a week or two weeks and finally runs to \$100,000. Perhaps you might ask the Minister of Justice just how much this costs. This is what the man said at this gathering.

I have not figured it out, but he said—his name was Harvey Salem—and he pointed out that the average cost of a high court trial—I should have added a high court trial

—for a drug offender, exclusive of defence cost, ranges between \$20,000 to \$30,000. If the trial lasts more than a week, said Mr. Salem, the costs would well be over \$100,000 which is an atrocious waste when applied to this problem. It is indeed when you consider what these people from the Addiction Research Foundation could do with \$20,000 to \$30,000 per patient.

Mr. W. Newman: You do not believe that?

Mr. Ben: I believe it.

Mr. W. Newman: You are a lawyer, you know better than that too.

Mr. Ben: I believe it. David Collins, who is a director of the Toronto Free Youth Clinic, says that there are now 2,000 heroin addicts in Toronto. At one time we were just talking about marijuana—oh, it is not addictive. Nobody said it was addictive. We all said that it created a need for it—psychological rather than physical—but everybody said that the key was it was not addictive and because it was not addictive it was supposed to be safe. But now we have, as this man points out, 2,000 heroin addicts in Toronto. Some say he is high, others say he is low; the fact is we have a lot of them. When you consider that the RCMP say they are now making 1,000 arrests a month for heroin offences, that is a serious problem.

Mr. W. Newman: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. You are talking about 1,000 heroin arrests a month—

Mr. Ben: A month, in 1970.

Mr. W. Newman: In Ontario?

Mr. Ben: Well, let me just—

Mr. W. Newman: Let us just get the record straight on this.

Mr. Ben: Arrests in connection with marijuana, hashish and other soft drug offences were made by the RCMP at the rate of 1,000 a month in 1970. I imagine that that would be for all of Canada. So what?

Mr. W. Newman: You are talking about the whole of Canada!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: It is no less serious if it is for all of Canada.

Mr. W. Newman: I am dealing with young people every day of the week. You are not.

Mr. Ben: I beg your pardon?

Mr. W. Newman: I deal with these young people every day of the week and you do not, and you make statements like that—1,000 heroin cases a month. Let us be practical and be factual about what you are saying tonight.

Mr. Ben: So is it any less serious because all of them are not heroin and some of them—

Mr. W. Newman: Come on, let us be practical.

Mr. Ben: This is the Tory attitude, I guess, Mr. Minister. That 1,000 arrests for drug offences are not serious, if they are not all for heroin. You must have been out smoking a pipe.

Mr. W. Newman: Let us—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! Let one man speak now.

Mr. Ben: This is the way, every time this problem comes up, it is ridiculed. Last night I was listening to the chief of police for Metropolitan Toronto, Harold Adamson, on CFRB, and they put this question to him about the problem of drugs. Almost the first reaction of one of the panelists was: "Well, you are not suggesting it is addictive?" the implication being that if it is not addictive it is all right.

All along these gurus on our news media were giving the impression that there was nothing wrong with marijuana. Now that the results of these experiments are starting to be published, have you heard one of these high priests, through one of the same media where they almost praise the use of these drugs as being the key to open the door to paradise, say: "Well, we were wrong. Children, do not use this stuff, it is harmful." Have you heard one of them recently? Not on your life, and you wonder why we have kids using that.

Now, what are you going to do with them? If you want to stop it—well, the former leader of the NDP has gone, but he was talking about taking dollar-for-dollar from the advertising industry insofar as alcohol is concerned. Is that a solution? Is that going to solve the problem? If you want to stop the ill-effects of alcohol the real solution is to stop permitting alcohol to be used.

Mr. Lawlor: Prohibition?

Mr. Ben: Prohibition may be the answer. But tell me—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: We are taking a dollar from the advertising industry for each dollar we spend promoting beer—is that going to serve the end result?

In the United States they had the intestinal fortitude, Mr. Minister—who just shoved a cigarette in his mouth—to ban the advertising of tobacco on television because they deemed it to be harmful. We try to get our government to do the same here, but they do not have the intestinal fortitude to do it. This government says: "It is not our problem, it is a federal problem" and indeed it is.

One of the difficulties about what the hon. member for York South suggested is that it comes under Trade and Commerce. They have control over advertising and unfortunately you cannot take any action. The only action you could take legally would be to impose complete prohibition.

But the fact is China had at one time a drug problem, a drug problem induced and engendered by the white races that went in there and started peddling opium. As a matter of fact, they had a war over it because the Chinese tried to ban the importation of opium into their country, opium that was ruining, and in essence killing thousands and millions of Chinese. We went over there—oh, the white world could force them to permit opium to be imported into China.

At any rate, in the long run, they banned completely any use of non-medicinal drugs. And they do not have a drug problem.

Mr. W. Newman: With 700 million people? You said they killed millions of them and there are still 700 million.

Mr. Ben: There are indeed.

Mr. W. Newman: That is right.

Mr. Ben: Boy, what intelligence.

Mr. W. Newman: They died like flies.

Mr. Ben: So, Mr. Minister—anyway, you are a lawyer. You know it is the tendency of the court to impose a heavy fine not on the thief but on the receiver, the principle being

that there would be less thieving if there were not receivers prepared to purchase the stolen goods from the thieves.

Locking up all receivers is not going to solve the problem of thievery, because others will still steal for their own use. And probably the same would apply here. The fact is, we know that the people at the back end in the illicit drug industry seldom are caught. The big-time operators who finance this are seldom caught; it is the pusher on the street, or the one who makes the deal, or the one who transports it. But when have you heard of the man behind it all being caught? If he was caught he undoubtedly would deserve a life sentence, as the member for Don Mills says, but how and when do you catch them? The problem is right on the street, and the only way we are going to solve it is by going out on the street, not coming out with all these grandiose ideas. It is obvious, Mr. Minister, that your department will never solve it, your government will never solve it, when one considers the weak intelligence of the people who sit behind you.

Mr. W. Newman: Oh, come on, you do not know what you are talking about.

Mr. Chairman: Order! Order, please!

Mr. W. Newman: You are making a big, long statement, and you do not know what you are talking about. You have never dealt with it; you never know what the facts are. You give a lot of misleading statements.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! Tomorrow we will square this thing up. I must apologize, through no fault of mine, that there are members here who have not had an opportunity to speak, but we will take them in the order they asked to be heard: Mr. Martel, Mr. Pitman, Mr. Pilkey, and Mr. Lawlor.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Well, you can ask tomorrow. These members have already asked. This meeting is adjourned until tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

The committee adjourned at 10.30 o'clock, p.m.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health
Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, May 18, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1971

The committee met at 3.25 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. O. F. Villeneuve in the Chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

Mr. Chairman: We will call the meeting to order. When we adjourned last night the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) was to be the first speaker today. He has withdrawn and the member for High Park is substituting.

On vote 701.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Mr. Chairman, there are some questions I would like to ask about this marijuana testing programme. Specifically, the one thing that is bothering me the most, to the minister, why are you using drug addicts in the programme? I should think these would be the very people you would want not to use.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): I was mentioning last night to the member for Cochrane South (Mr. Ferrier) that I think the best thing to do would be to leave the experiments until they are finished and then report on them and subject ourselves to the criticism of the experiments at that time.

Mr. Shulman: I can understand the desire of the department to hold us up but inasmuch as some people's lives might be ruined by this experiment, I think it is highly important I do bring it up. You have people—at least, one individual that I am aware of who is a drug addict—to whom you are giving marijuana.

If you were taking normal and healthy people and giving it to them under a test period, I can well understand waiting until it is all over. But under these circumstances where apparently not only is no test or control being kept of the people being used but at least in one case I know that the man who did the choosing was well aware that this man is an addict—I have to question the whole basis of the experiments. What is going

to be the value of doing experiments, marijuana testing, when you are not using average, normal, healthy people?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot accept the allegation as fact, as to whether or not the person you know of is or is not—

Mr. Shulman: Is Doctor Hicks here?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But I would still, rather than start prying into an experiment which is in progress, undertake that when the experiment is completed its results, the way in which it was carried out and everything will be, of course, exposed to you and to the public view. It does not seem sound, in as sensitive an area as testing of drug use, to open a fundamental experiment like this before it is completed and a balanced report is available, with details to give not only to you but to everyone.

Mr. Shulman: But, Mr. Minister, I am not asking for the results of the experiment, I am questioning the whole basis of the experiment. I am saying the people you are using are wrong and some of the methods you are using are wrong. Furthermore, I am not at all sure the experiment has not been completed or is largely completed already.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am advised it is nearing completion.

Mr. Shulman: All right, then may I go back again and ask is Doctor Hicks here?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Shulman: Is anyone here who knows anything about it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, Mr. Archibald is here. I have suggested to him, as I have suggested to you, that in the middle of an experiment of this delicacy it would be futile and wasteful of the efforts being put into the experiment to open it up before it is completed and we are able to give a full report from the scientific point of view. I will undertake categorically that you shall have, and the public of course shall have, the complete details from the scientific and any point of view that you want to name

with regard to the experiment: how it was conceived; how it was developed; what was done. I simply ask, in view of the fact that it is near its terminal stage that we not open it until it is completed.

Mr. Shulman: Then let me ask again, or in a different way, is the experiment not completed as far as the people smoking the marijuana is concerned? Is that part not already finished? If so, how could it possibly do any harm to discuss that here now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am advised that the experiment is not completed; that there are people still involved in the experiment and that the value of the experiment itself will be jeopardized by anything that fouls it up prior to its completion. I do accept entirely your right and the right of the public, in relation to this kind of experiment, to have all the details necessary to apprise scientifically, as well as morally or emotionally, the whole basis of the experiment, what it is purporting to do and what it can accomplish.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, you are suggesting the experiment could be damaged because the persons involved would hear something about what went on here today?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Shulman: Is the minister not aware that these persons are all being kept incommunicado?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I am not.

Mr. Shulman: I ask the minister to ask Mr. Archibald if that is not so.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): They do not want to know. It is either *res judicata* or it is an experiment.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I really think that nibbling at the edges of this—

Mr. Shulman: I think I am at the middle of it, not the edge. I have material here which I find shocking and I want to look into it. I am not prepared to wait until the results of the experiment come out, which might be a year hence, particularly in view of this one fact—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Archibald, when do you expect the experiment to be completed?

Mr. H. D. Archibald (Executive Director, Addiction Research Foundation): In approximately a month and a half.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If the member will wait the six weeks we will give you all the facts instead of debating with you now on the basis of some of the facts.

Mr. Shulman: All right, but how are we going to get all the facts since there will be no place in which we can question you?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well I am around here. Now let me see, that is only a question of mechanics.

Mr. Shulman: If you are prepared to give some assurance that we can do this in six weeks, then I am prepared to wait.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know what the mechanics would be. Obviously one form would be the House itself, but that is a cumbersome—

Mr. Shulman: As a compromise, would you be willing to call a meeting of the health resources committee?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This committee will still be in session, will it not?

Mr. Chairman: Unless the House is dissolved.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Unless the House is dissolved! With the consent of the Chairman and the committee, presumably, we will bring the final experiment back to this committee. Will you be ready in about six weeks' time, Mr. Archibald?

Mr. Shulman: Before the end of June, because that is when the House will be rising.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Archibald, when will you be capable of giving—

Mr. Archibald: We will be finished with the actual experiment insofar as it is involving the subjects in approximately six weeks' time. Then, I think, we would be prepared to discuss the method and the whole process gone through.

Mr. Shulman: Before the end of June?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The methodology will be capable of being discussed in six weeks' time.

Mr. Shulman: Fine.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pilkey.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Mr. Chairman, I want to get back to the amount of money that was allocated for the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation. As I

pointed out last night this \$6.9 million is obviously an insignificant sum in terms of the amount of money—or the amount of profits—received through the LCBO. The amount of money that this government is spending on this whole question of alcoholism is \$6.9 million and their total revenue is \$201 million. In other words, we are spending 3.5 per cent of the income to attempt to provide adequate treatment for people who are suffering from alcoholism.

As I pointed out, it appears to me that there are not enough treatment centres in the Province of Ontario. In addition to that there are not enough people trained in this area to alleviate this whole problem of alcoholism. I just happen to think that the government has to do more in this area.

I want to ask a question. First of all, how does this government determine what funds an individual organization is going to receive? In other words, if there is an organization that wants to set up a treatment centre, how does this government determine if that centre will receive any money at all?

As I pointed out, there is a group in the Whitby-Oshawa area who have made a survey over the past year and a half of the community requirements. Their assessment is that there is a need for a treatment centre in that area. As I understand it now, about the only thing that is available in the area is at the Whitby Psychiatric Hospital, really an extension of the mental health programme, and that is not adequate in my view. It has got to be something more than that. Just to put a fellow into the psychiatric hospital to dry him out and then put him on his way because there is really nothing else for him is totally inadequate. I just happen to think that if this government would take just 10 per cent of its total profit through the LCBO, which would come to something like \$20 million, this would practically triple the present budget, and we would still be only spending 10 per cent of the revenue from that source.

I do not think it is asking too much that we spend that kind of money from the profit if we are really serious in attempting to come to grips with this problem of alcoholism. Because I want to suggest to the minister that 10 years from now we are going to be making these same kind of expenditures because we will still be dealing with the problem as it is today.

I just happen to think we have got to get at these people who are working in industry much sooner than we are. There has got to

be co-operation between the community, the industry, the union, the management and a whole raft of people who are interested in this question. Then we can do it on the basis of treating those who are affected and we can even attempt to have some preventative measures involved as well. If we do that, then I think the money we are spending in this area will be well spent, as opposed to this thing perpetuating itself forever and a day.

I am not suggesting for a moment, Mr. Minister, that we are going to eliminate alcoholism, I do not expect that, but surely we can get it down to the very minimum.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, we have been increasing our expenditure in this field. In 1970-1971 the gross figure, putting together all bits and pieces that fall under the addiction programme, amounted to \$9 million, and I have before me figures showing that if you take them out of the different spots in the estimates our programme this year will involve \$11.6 million.

To the extent that we have a programme I feel that our approach should be that of assessing the value and the impact and the usefulness of the programme. To arbitrarily hitch it to the profits in liquor sales does produce higher figures, but how it relates to a useful programme is another thing.

I do not think that I can quarrel with the suggestion that we have to spend more. We are spending more, we are developing our programmes step by step. As far as I know we do not have to take a back seat to any other jurisdiction in this field.

Mr. Pilkey: I appreciate—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We could always be better, but we are ahead of everyone else.

Mr. Pilkey: Yes, I appreciate that, but I would like to have an answer to my question—how you determine what funds are available to an organization that wants to set up a treatment centre, as an example? How do you make that kind of determination?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: These are assessed in the department and with the foundation. Perhaps—would you like to speak Dr. Charron?

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister of Health): Mr. Minister, these projects are received and, depending on the type of project, they are reviewed by departmental people along with the Addiction Research

Foundation. If it is considered that the projects are worthwhile then a grant is given to this particular organization to assist in supporting them.

Mr. Pilkey: The other thing—and I could be wrong in my assessment—but surely when you are setting up your total financial needs for this department you send out a memo to the various departments within your department and say how you submit what you need to run that department for a year. Invariably my guess would be that those department estimates are cut and it would appear to me that this is one place that the government would zero in and say: "Well look, we have to make cuts and this is one place we can make them." So can I ask the question: Did the government cut the Alcoholic and Research Addiction Foundation's request for money from what they asked for originally? Is this \$6.9 million exactly what they asked for?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not going to answer your question because that drives us inside the doors of Treasury Board.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): It would not be a bad place to be.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I simply cannot allow you into Treasury Board, but I can say that those figures, when you put them together show that we have in one year moved from a total thrust in this programme of \$9 million to just under \$12 million. From a percentage point of view I think that is pretty good in any governmental programme.

The point is that in this field it is not just a question of writing a cheque, it is having the capacity to run the programme and the people who know what they are doing. And therefore we have been able to sell the Treasury Board this year on a programme involving \$11.6 million. I would hope, as you have hoped, that with each year we shall increase the power of this programme, and one of the ways it will increase of course is with more people such as the people you are talking about themselves becoming involved, placing their applications before us, establishing their reasonable expertise, as part of an overall programme.

Mr. Pilkey: Is it the view of the minister that the problem of alcoholism in the Province of Ontario has diminished, or has it been accelerated over the last two years, as an example?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: My recollection of the figures is there is a general increase in alcoholism in our society, is there not?

Mr. Archibald: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there has been a general increase, and a considerable increase actually. Starting about 1955 the graph started to increase in terms of the problems of alcoholism.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Is Ontario different, Mr. Archibald, or distinctive, insofar as other jurisdictions are concerned in its alcoholism or drug abuse? Are there any special characteristics of this province insofar as this health problem is concerned?

Mr. Archibald: Well examining the per capital prevalence of alcoholism in Canada, Ontario and British Columbia are the highest of the provinces of Canada; followed, I think, by Quebec and then the other provinces.

Canada is about three-quarters up on the scale in the international data. The United States is very high. France is very high, and Canada was at one point really about the mid-point, but is moving up the scale now. The United States and France are the highest countries in the world in terms of alcoholism.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): What happened to Sweden?

Mr. Archibald: Sweden is about three-quarters of the way.

Mr. Pilkey: Then in the minister's view, if the problem is increasing even though we are spending additional money to combat it, then we are just not getting the job done.

I respectfully submit the problem is that we are not spending enough money in this area to combat alcoholism effectively, and if I am wrong I would like to know that. Maybe the answer is not money at all. If that is not the question, let me put the question: Where are we falling down in the treatment of alcoholism if it is on the increase in the Province of Ontario? Is it the liquor laws or what is it? What is the problem?

Mr. Archibald: Could I put it in another framework. Where we are falling down is much more fundamental.

It is in the social fabric, the fabric of our society. You cannot isolate alcohol from drugs; you cannot isolate both of them from venereal disease. We have a vast number of social ills that are part of the degree of sickness of our whole society in 1971. We are not alone; the whole western world in one way or

another faces this problem. We get immediately into the question of philosophy. How much of the taxpayers' money should be spent, as I have said, on taking care of the self-inflicted wounds of individuals' social conduct and how much of the taxpayers' money should be spent in the field of education and prevention? Unless we have an unlimited pocketbook we immediately face this kind of issue.

Mr. Pilkey: But that gets back to my original argument though. If that is where we derive the revenue from, surely we ought to be able to spend it to look after the sickness that we, in a sense, have created. I agree that it is self-inflicted to a point, but by the same token the moment that we make it available as we do and get the revenue we get from it—and I am not in disagreement with that—but it just seems to me that we have got to spend more of the revenue that we accrue from the sale of liquor to combat the kind of sickness that we create.

Mr. Archibald: I am only suggesting—and that is not really a quarrel with your argument—that to isolate a particular piece or bit of revenue and apply it directly to a particular aspect of the problem is perhaps not as sophisticated a way of dealing with it as we should perhaps follow, because they are all interrelated. Could we in some way develop a system where our profit out of other human vices were supporting themselves? I think that generally speaking we must look to the problem as a whole. What we do in alcoholism has got to relate to what we do in the field of drugs and what we do in the field of education. How many dollars coming out of, shall we say, liquor, should really go to educating children and young people?

Mr. Pilkey: I appreciate that.

One final question then through the minister that maybe Dr. Charron could answer. He said that to determine what funds some organization would get for treatment centres they made a submission to your department, and as a result of that submission you made the determination. Could I ask if anyone or any organization has been rejected in its submission; and if it has for what reason?

Dr. Charron: Yes, there have been certain projects that have been rejected. Some of the projects were rejected because it was considered they had not been developed in a way that would result in a reasonable return for the money invested. In other circumstances the assistance was only partial because

it was considered that probably more community money, or more money from other sources, should be put into a project of this nature in order to emphasize the community relationship of the programme as a whole.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Young.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, I think in this problem, as in so many others, part of the total answer is the tremendous power of the public media in creating a point of view, as the minister pointed out. We are forever being bombarded by advertising which makes certain things desirable among young people, and so this comes about. We are not spending nearly as much to educate the other way around, and perhaps this is part of it.

I do not suppose we will ever be able to make the kind of an impact created by those who have a vested interest in the business and who are building up good will toward the business and toward the activity concerned.

I want to direct the attention of the committee to another problem of a similar kind. Last summer the University of California did a study. That study was finally completed and published about August, and they said this: that the trend toward a longer life expectancy for older men in western countries has ended abruptly.

For some time now it has been going up and now, this study says, that trend toward longer life has stopped and is as a matter of fact on the downturn. It concluded that smoking, first adopted on a large scale only after the First World War, was by far the strongest factor in halting the longevity trend that had been developing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What was?

Mr. Young: Smoking.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, I am sorry!

Mr. Young: There is the minister you see. I would abolish the member for Sudbury East's pipe as a starter here, but we are in health committee discussing some of these problems.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): The minister smokes? Yes.

Mr. Young: Yes. The levelling-off process was found to be most marked, the study said, in countries that smoked the most; with Scotland, England and Wales leading the way, followed by the United States. All 17 countries analysed showed at least a doubling

of cigarette consumption between 1920 and 1960, and most showed a much greater increase than that. It is interesting that the report virtually ruled out lack of exercise, obesity and higher cholesterol consumption as compelling reasons for the levelling-off of life expectancy among men of middle age or older.

That is a very significant thing that happened last summer. I think all of us are familiar with what has been happening in this whole field of studies of cigarette smoking over the years. The Canadian Medical Association, for example, has pointed out that the law of averages says that each cigarette smoked shortens life by 7.4 minutes. It may be that you feel that cutting off the 7.4 minutes when you get old is compensated for by the extra pleasure that you get from smoking that cigarette now, and so I suppose that is a trade-off we make.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What about years in the Legislature?

Mr. Young: That is one of the things.

Now with regard to lung cancer, if I can bring the figures to the committee, the death rate for this disease is 10 times as high for smokers as for non-smokers, and 20 times as high for heavy smokers—that is two packs a day or more. Lung cancer death rates among men today is 10 times what it was in 1931 and 2.5 times as high among women; they do not smoke quite as much, I guess. Lung cancer is usually not detected until too late for effective treatment.

As far as emphysema is concerned, it is seven times as high today as it was in 1951—20 years ago—and the death rate among smokers is 12 times as high as among non-smokers—that is from emphysema.

Then when we come to heart attacks: For those smoking one pack a day or more, they are three times as high as those who do not smoke. The risk of men dying suddenly from the first heart attack is five times as high for smokers.

Lately we have been seeing figures that the death rate from heart attack is dropping a bit and doctors tell us that the reason for that is once a man has one heart attack, then the doctor points a finger at him and says, "Quit smoking." He generally is scared enough at that point not to smoke any more, and so he does not continue and he is not in one of those death statistics later on.

Then when we come to people with high blood pressure. There the increase of the

risk of death is over 200 per cent if he smokes.

So the whole story is—and I do not need to give any more figures here—the earlier one begins smoking, the more he smokes, the more he inhales, and the longer one smokes, the greater the risk. And so the stark fact is that diseases caused by cigarette smoking constitute the biggest single health problem in this century.

We come to the question, how do we deal with this? In the United States the cigarette companies agreed to put a warning on each pack—a warning that it was dangerous to smoke and that the danger of lung cancer was there. But research since that time has shown that this has absolutely no deterrent effect. That warning is just passed by and it does not work.

And so I suppose the big job, Mr. Minister, is to change the attitudes of our people and put a stop to industry's false but attractive advertising campaign, and to use that time and space to build a concept of clean living apart from the smoke and to persuade our youth that there is more to life than a habit which can sicken and destroy them.

At one time I think many of us thought that if we can just get to our young people early enough, in the schools, and begin to put on a real campaign here we can gradually wean them away from this. But again, research has shown that young people—and particularly the children in the public school and early high school—are more influenced by what their parents and their teachers do and by what the Minister of Health does than by all the preaching that they can get. As long as their parents smoke, as long as teachers smoke, as long as they see people they respect smoke, the smoking is going to continue. We come to this impasse; we can stop the advertising, as we have started to do on TV, but if we do not persuade older people to quit then the battle seems to be pretty hopeless.

It seems to me there are several things we ought to face up to. One is that while we have effectively stopped advertising on TV, cigarette manufacturers have just compensated for that by using billboards, newspapers and all sorts of sales gimmicks of various kinds, to persuade young people particularly to start the habit. Once they start it they figure they have a market there.

But now that we know the story—we know why these things are—then why in the world do we not use the common sense we

were given and start to really tackle this thing in a real way? There is no question that the generation that now is being hooked is on the way to a programme which is going to lead them to death at an early age. It is going to cut off, on average, from their life expectancy 7.5 minutes for every cigarette that is smoked.

Surely we can do these things, Mr. Minister. First, we can—and this is a federal matter I suppose—cut out the advertising, all advertising, from TV and radio. I think too we ought to cut the advertising from the billboards and from the newspapers.

But in addition to that—and this is where the provinces come in—we ought to start a massive advertising campaign to make this thing called cigarette smoking a matter for young people to look upon with very great suspicion. More than that, we should make it a matter which is not respectable.

I think we have the expertise. We have the minds with which to do these things. We have the advertising know-how to put on a campaign through this department which can persuade our young people that this is not the smart thing to do—as a matter of fact, the smart thing is never to start—and not to use these things which are so dangerous to health and the life.

So Mr. Chairman, I bring this to your attention today and would hope that some way or other this province might start a real campaign.

I have a clipping here of January 6, 1971, from the Toronto Daily Star. The last Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) wrote a letter to John Munro, the federal Health minister, urging that something ought to be done. He says that literally thousands of Ontario residents will die prematurely because of cigarette smoking, and he went on to say that:

I think there is no reason why it should not include the print media as far as the ban is concerned.

And then he said:

Ontario committed itself to co-operation with the federal government in a nationwide anti-smoking campaign, but was disappointed in the lack of leadership provided by Ottawa.

Well now, Mr. Munro intended to introduce his legislation some time ago. He has not quite got around to it because of, I presume, the pressure from the tobacco-growing area and from the industry.

But I do not think we can wait forever for Ottawa to act in this field. I think the Province of Ontario has a real responsibility to its children to begin this programme of actually doing an educational and propaganda job which will persuade our young people that this is a bad habit which should not be embarked upon and that the smart people never start.

I throw this out for your comment, Mr. Minister. I hope that we can tackle this problem seriously in the Province of Ontario and really embark on a programme, perhaps in co-operation with The Department of Education, and do what we have been talking about now for quite a few years and yet never really undertaken in a real way. I know some things have been done; some education has been going on in our schools, but somehow we have failed to reach out in the mass media to do the effective job that ought to be done here in Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, would you please tell me why there is a statutory vote of \$10,000 to the governors of the University of Toronto—Banting and Best research fund?

Mr. Young: Can we get some replies from the minister?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, I cannot disagree with anything you have said. I am not proud myself, for example, of the fact that I do smoke. It is probably just one step better than promising to quit and not quitting.

Mr. Ben: Do not let it bother you, Ministers of Health are a dime a dozen.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Insofar as smoking itself is concerned, we do have a programme in the province. The director of the programme is not here today to give you any details. It is certainly nothing like the kind of programme you are describing, which would have tremendous impact.

We do really need leadership at the national level on a subject like this. Advertising standards or advertising controls—media controls—really will not work satisfactorily on a balkanized base. That is all I can undertake, even as Minister of Health for the Province of Ontario.

This is certainly not far behind any leadership that will be given at the federal level in relation to communications media, propaganda and persuasion. Insofar as our own educational programmes are concerned, I

cannot really comment in any detail on how much we are spending in our schooling system, but perhaps we could get some further details from Mr. Keays.

Dr. Charron: Yes, Mr. Keays will be here when the public health vote is discussed. He has all of the details of that programme, and it is beginning to have an impact.

Mr. Young: I was startled to read in this morning's paper that the sale of cigarettes of one of our big manufacturers has gone up markedly in the year 1970 over the year 1969, which would seem to indicate that the young people are getting hooked all the time and more and more are starting the habit.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think that on a population basis there is a decline.

Mr. Young: It may well be, but I think the decline is not significant enough in view of the urgency of this matter and in view of the knowledge we now have of the danger.

A few years ago, a decade ago, we did not know this. We had no knowledge of the danger of the cigarette habit and so we were complacent about it. And while some of us never did acquire the habit and we are thankful for that, a great many did and, like yourself, find it almost impossible to get free of it now, because it is the kind of thing that is very difficult to break once it is embarked upon, unless one does get that heart attack or has some compelling reason of that kind.

We just are not succeeding. The fact is that even though the programme is on, though we are doing something and though we may be making some impact on some of the school children, we are just losing the battle here. The companies are stepping up their advertising, their features and their gimmicks. For every dollar that is being spent in educating against the habit, we see perhaps hundreds of dollars spent in hooking the youngsters on the habit.

I think it is just a losing battle unless we do something drastic first of all to stop the exposure, and secondly counter-exposure must be undertaken; and the move forward much faster than we are doing today.

Mr. Ben: I had asked a question, but I would ask the hon. member who just finished speaking if his party would support the enforcement of a provision in The Tobacco Act which makes it illegal for a storekeeper to sell cigarettes or tobacco products to a child under the age of 16?

Mr. Young: It should be enforced.

Mr. Ben: Take note of it, I urge the minister, and tell your friend the Attorney General, that we are of a mind that the Act ought to be enforced that every storekeeper who sells tobacco products to a child under the age of 16, in contravention of the Act, and every child who purchases under 16, in contravention of the Act, should be prosecuted. Otherwise you are just a hypocrite, sir, and I do not think you want to be referred to as such.

Now back to your question on that—

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): People have always been against cigarettes since the beginning of cigarette smoking. Boys started smoking at the age of 10. You smoked them and I smoked them.

Mr. Ben: At the age of 16?

Mr. Dymond: Ten.

Mr. Ben: No way!

Mr. Dymond: Yes, we did.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): You know we couldn't afford tobacco. We smoked consilk.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): That was Woodbine.

Mr. Ben: You know the vote I am referring to—the \$10,000 statutory vote. Why have you been giving them \$10,000 a year since 1923?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If I could just read off the facts of history—

Mr. Ben: All right, read off the facts of history.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In 1923 the provincial government passed an Act, known as The Banting and Best Medical Research Act, 1923, authorizing the statutory payment of \$10,000 annually for the purpose of enabling Doctors Banting and Best and their co-workers to carry on working in various fields of medical research. This grant was to be paid to the governors of the University of Toronto and applied to the special trust fund for the purpose only for which it was intended. An additional non-statutory grant of \$20,000 was subsequently provided for the same purpose.

Mr. Ben: Okay now. One of the illustrious men has departed this world. Correct?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Ben: Dr. Banting is long gone, although Dr. Best is still there. How much time does Dr. Best put into research at the institute for the \$30,000 a year he receives, because that is what it amounts to, since he is the lone survivor.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, this grant is to be paid to the governors of the University of Toronto.

Mr. Ben: But for the purpose specified—that is to enable Doctors Banting and Best to carry on their research. Doctor Banting is no longer with us, yet you have been providing an additional grant of \$20,000 under the main office vote; so \$30,000 a year are going to them.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is the support paid annually to the university for its support of the Banting Institute.

Mr. Ben: No, you read that again. It is for the research carried on by these two gentlemen—and their co-workers. If they are not carrying on experiments, they cannot have co-workers. Do you not think it is time that you reassessed that?

If you want to give grants to the institutions that are carrying on research, that is one thing; but that particular statutory provision was in recognition of the discoveries of Doctors Banting and Best and provided a \$10,000 annual grant to them and their co-workers for the purpose of carrying on experimentation. Subsequently it has been increased by an annual non-statutory grant of \$20,000 that is voted.

As I say, I am not objecting to grants being given for carrying out experiments, but here you have got into a rut. You can never change the statutory provision. One of the doctors has gone and the survivor is doing almost no experimentation—I think he is just a professor emeritus at Banting Institute now—and yet you maintain that policy. That, to me, is fairly ridiculous. If you want to give grants to the institution, fine, then do so—but not under this spurious statute.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is a specific grant which was related in the beginning to the historical fact of the discovery of insulin.

Mr. Ben: In recognition of that historical fact.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What you are really suggesting is that the \$30,000 be lumped into a general grant programme; in

other words be given to the university governors as part of larger subventions and not categorized in relation to that particular institute.

Mr. Ben: You are giving a \$20,000 grant to the research fund; fine, that is understandable. The gentlemen in the corner here receive research funds, but—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We can still, I am told, identify the Banting and Best research. I am told there are still two senior research workers there in the institute.

Let me put it this way: We will take it under consideration whether or not there are any advantages other than superficial in transferring the support without the historic tag on it.

Mr. Ben: Fine. Then you have an item under research and planning services of federal health grants—operating funds, \$350,000.

Mr. Ferrier: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, are you going to deal with every item under the first vote or are you going to try to clear, say alcoholism and drug addiction.

Mr. Chairman: It should be handled item by item. That is what we asked for yesterday to keep it in order.

Mr. Ferrier: Would it not be better, in the interest of order, to finish the vote on the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation and then we would not have to come back to this again?

Mr. Chairman: I could not agree with you more.

Mr. Ferrier: But we are off on other subjects now.

Mr. Ben: I thought we did that last night, and it seems it started again today.

Mr. Chairman: It never carried.

Mr. Ben: Oh you have not been going item by item. The most you have done is go under vote 701, but you do not go under item 1, 2, 3, 4 and so on.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What I was hoping we could do was go through the items and then carry the votes. From a procedural point of view and in order to release some of the very valuable staff that I would like to see over in my department working, I would hope we could move item by item so the people can go when they are finished.

Mr. Ferrier: Maybe if the Chairman would so rule, we could hear any other speaker on alcoholism and drug addiction.

Mr. Chairman: I asked for your co-operation. I did not want to be a dictator, but perhaps I will have to be.

Mr. Ben: Are you suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that those of us who feel the topic has been exhausted on alcoholism and drug research must sit here until everybody feels he has exhausted it?

Mr. Pitman: Yes.

Mr. Ben: —then go on to Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation and whip that for a couple of days, and then go on to payments for control of drug abuse.

Mr. Pitman: Certainly.

Mr. Ferrier: We have a right to—

Mr. Ben: But, Mr. Chairman, yesterday we were discussing control of drug abuse, which means we have been out of order.

Mr. Chairman: That is quite all right, but there are more who want to speak about it.

Mr. Ben: Okay, fine, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted you to rule so that you would not object.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If you could just call the item. What I would really like to know is, is item 4 completed?

Mr. Ben: We are still on item 1 according to the—

Mr. Chairman: Vote 701, item 1.

Mr. Ben: We are still on item no. 1?

Mr. Chairman: That is right. Mr. Martel have you anything to say on it?

Mr. Martel: Yes, I have two points, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Just a minute, take them in order.

Mr. B. Newman: But the member for Sudbury East gave up his opportunity to speak so that the member for High Park might be heard.

Mr. Chairman: That is why it is all right.

Mr. B. Newman: Last night when we adjourned I made mention that I wanted to

speak then and you said, "Well we will do it tomorrow."

Mr. Chairman: That is right.

Mr. B. Newman: Do I wait to the end of the line again?

Mr. Chairman: No, this man came in and asked to speak.

Mr. B. Newman: So did I ask to speak.

Mr. Chairman: But you asked after he did.

Mr. B. Newman: He asked last night.

Mr. Chairman: I know but that is quite all right, he was not here at the starting time of the meeting.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, just two points on this: In discussion with a number of students recently they indicated to me the reason the educational material was not being believed by the students was because it was so wild, and the students who are tampering with drugs knew better, not knew better but just did not believe what was in the material, and consequently when they would leave a meeting—and they had just come the week before from one held at the Llewellyn Park High School in Sudbury. The kids went out and the parents stayed to question. There was certainly a great job in the hall. Because it was so wild they said that you could not accept it.

I do not know what can be done they think that the material should be extremely realistic. Based on the fact that many of them are playing around with pot and so on and know its results, they just say that the results in the educational material are so wild as to make it unbelievable and therefore they do not accept it and do not believe.

I do not know what your comments would be in respect to that matter.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think that is recognized, I know it is recognized by Mr. Archibald and the foundation, that there is a generation gap insofar as the understanding of the information is concerned. It arises from the fundamental fact that our generation, from the physical point of view, does not know from our own personal contact, simply does not know as much about drugs as the next generation does from its abuse or from the abuse of drugs.

It also means that those who are thinking forward are very much involved, and I know the foundation is very much involved, in

trying to develop our education thrust or impact, whatever you want, on the basis of much greater communication from kid to kid.

If Mr. Archibald would like to enlarge on this I know he can give you a number of examples of where we are reorienting our pitch so that we get those young people who have had experience with drugs as the front runners in our educational programme. You and I are no good at it because we have never had the experience. Mr. Archibald, would you comment on the point made by the member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Archibald: Mr. Chairman, in any educational programme you really have to move on a variety of fronts. In some situations scientifically-based literature is the thing that gets through. This is particularly relevant of course to adults. In other situations young people particularly, the media or the transmission of information is the important thing; it is basically important, and here is where we make rather extensive use of young people, at the actual transmission level of information.

I think in general, however, your comment relating to drug users per se, those who are committed to the process of using drugs, will tend to be turned off by literature and information that does not extol the value of various kinds of drugs, or on the other hand that points out some of the hazards connected therewith. Here is a real dilemma.

We do not believe that you are going to turn many young, committed drug users around by using pamphlets. But here is why one really has to move on a variety of fronts, utilizing printed material and utilizing audio-visual, utilizing young people in the transmission process and so on right across the piece.

Mr. Martel: The second problem then is that when the young people, for example are taken to hospitals or finally admit they have a problem, the complaint I get is they are immediately picked on by the nursing staff and start to get a scolding on being bad boys and girls, which just does not jell, it does not cut the mustard with these kids. They do not need a lecture and they resent getting the lecture from a nurse or something like that.

Is anything being done to curb that sort of thing? When the kid admits that he has a problem and then he gets a lecture from a nurse, you know what he does! He just immediately turns himself off and he does not listen to a thing. At that point presumably it is a pretty critical area, and yet some inex-

perienced nurse starts to speak and she, rather than helping him by giving this little tongue lashing, is doing more harm than good.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All I can say is that this is changing. As we all become more educated and more sophisticated in trying to deal with the problem, I think we will probably—you can certainly say that in the hospitals in many parts of the province this is shifting and changing.

How you measure how quickly a question of educating the staff itself is going to be accomplished I do not know. Have you any way of coming to grips with that question, Mr. Archibald?

Mr. Archibald: I agree with everything you said. It is a time phenomenon, but there has been a very considerable change in the last two years. As I pointed out yesterday the change is spotty.

In hospitals or in some treatment units the attitude is just absolutely pathetic! Partly of course, because, the staff of a general hospital really are not used to dealing with this kind of problem and they are turned off, they are frightened, they do not know how to handle it.

In a number of these situations we are in fact using young people themselves to demonstrate and teach, well to demonstrate to the hospital staffs how to handle a drug-hurt kid in crisis, and this kind of a technique is working quite effectively.

Other operations of course are in relation to the Ontario Hospital Association, and I mentioned these yesterday as well. Again here, one really has to move on a wide perimeter of fronts actually. I agree that one of the problems in terms of general hospitals is the uptight attitude present on the part of some of the staff in some of the hospitals but I can only assure you this is changing. Not nearly as rapidly as we would like, but change is inevitably a slow process.

Mr. Martel: Possibly a directive from the minister telling them to stop scolding kids might help. One final point—and I spoke to Mr. Archibald last night—we have made a request for assistance because we had anticipated a programme in summer 1971 in Sudbury at a cost of about \$115,000. The federal government indicated between \$65,000 and \$70,000 and have now cut it back to \$26,000. The provincial government, in spite of the fact I am still arguing it, have refused to give any. I have also written to Mr. Archibald. I am trying to cover the waterfront.

Has a decision been made with respect to the programme related to drugs in the Sudbury area for this coming summer? As I indicated last night, cocaine and heroin, according to the university students, have finally hit the city of Sudbury in the last six or seven weeks in a large way. There might have been isolated cases previous to this, but I am told that it has hit the Sudbury area in a large way in the last six or seven weeks.

We did not have a serious problem before, but we are going to have a dandy this summer with so many people unemployed and very little funds to operate the programme which we had hoped would go this coming summer.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well it is impossible for me with the totality of my estimates to deal with individual projects and I would not expect Mr. Archibald—

Mr. Martel: I was just wondering if you might know whether a decision had been made?

Mr. Archibald: That was the large book you sent us?

Mr. Martel: Right.

Mr. Archibald: No, no decision has been made on that as yet. It is actually being reviewed by the group which has the responsibility of doing this.

We are supporting two other operations in Sudbury.

Mr. Martel: We are trying to get them all co-ordinated though through "Summer '71", rather than having them operating on their own. One of the programmes is going to depend on whether they get money from the provincial government or not—the new one out in Sudbury. We are trying to get all three programmes to co-ordinate their activities, rather than have three small isolated areas.

We can look forward to an answer then in the near future?

Mr. Archibald: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: There are two things I want to deal with under main office, if I could.

Mr. Ben: We are on the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation. It is a ruling of the Chair that we must stick with one topic until it is exhausted.

Mr. Ferrier: All right!

If we are just going to deal with alcoholism and drug research until it is exhausted that is fine. I have one question. There is a budgeted item of \$225,000 for payments for control of drug abuse. What is this; where is this money spent; and is this spent by the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation, or is it spent in an independent way?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We dealt specifically with this in some detail yesterday. It is spent by the department itself and it is spread among payments to the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, our psychiatric hospitals, some to the foundation, some to our public health and local health unit exercise, some to The Departments of Education and Social and Family Services. It is money that we use to slot in for particular support in projects.

For instance, with regard to our hospitals I was mentioning again yesterday that we have projects, 22 of them I think it is in operation, and 28 more, if I am correct, planned, in the psychiatric hospitals. I could go into detail on each of these but will answer your question generally—it is to allow us a fund to use where we can apply it, place by place, as we see gaps and we see areas which may not strictly fall within the terms of reference of the foundation itself.

Mr. Ferrier: I must have been hallucinating or something. I did not—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I remember saying it.

Mr. Ferrier:—catch it yesterday. So I apologize for bringing it up again.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh fine.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pitman.

Mr. Pitman: Yes. I would like to deal a little bit with what we tried to cover last night. I am concerned about the problem I see; it relates to long-term plans and long-term patterns of what we are going to do about drugs.

With all the research that has been done, I am wondering how close the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation is coming to any kind of overall view of what is in a sense a use of drugs which is possible in terms of health, in terms of social needs.

It is very easy to say, "we are going to put every kid who pushes drugs in jail," and

"we are going to put all the kids who are using drugs in jail," but you know the kids have a very strange feeling that we are prepared to allow all kinds of socially disadvantageous activities to take place if it is alcohol and cigarettes.

We have heard here today that we accept all kinds of social costs. We do not put the alcohol pushers or the cigarette pushers in jail, nor do we put the users at too great a social disadvantage. As a father of four children I have the same kind of concern over the problem of drugs as anyone else has, but I am trying very hard to make some kind of rationality out of a problem which seems to be with us.

What I am really trying to determine is whether the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation has come any closer to determining what they would regard as the use of drugs, or the misuse of drugs, or dangerous and non-dangerous drugs. In other words, is there any pattern emerging which will give you, the minister, some input into what appears to be a federal problem, but which it seems to me—as I felt many others felt here last night—is also a provincial problem.

It is very easy to say, once you get nailed someplace and they ask, "Are you in favour of legalization of marijuana?" And you say, "Well, that is a federal problem." You know, it is a real cop-out.

At the same time, the kid will say: "Well, if marijuana has only the same kind of social disadvantages as tobacco or alcohol why do we not sell those kinds of drugs in an LCBO and have them government inspected and government regulated?" The whole thing then becomes part of an acceptable middle-class code.

It is pretty hard as a moral human being to answer those kinds of problems with the hang-ups that all of us have in believing, of course, that drugs are wrong and alcohol and cigarettes are okay.

What I am really searching for—I am not expecting you to deal with my moral problems on your estimates—but I would like to do is determine just where it is going in terms of the research foundation. Are you discovering any directions? Do you have any input into the LeDain commission or know what might be the future federal laws under which this province will have to act in terms of drugs and drug users and drug pushers?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well let me start off. With my limited knowledge I would

really suggest that you are never going to get a definitive answer to that because you are assessing a cultural change.

Mr. Pitman: Exactly!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And cultural changes will move like glaciers, but they still do move. Their movement is not visible on a day-to-day basis, nor I think in a year-to-year health programme, but within the context of the recognition that we are dealing with an overall cultural shift and the recognition that the foundation, in name and practice, does not distinguish its responsibilities in relation to one drug from another.

You know the work of the foundation, or the work of this department does not compound the kid's question in saying: "Well, you think alcohol is fine but you are mad about drugs." My understanding of the principle upon which we work is that neither of them abused is acceptable.

Now, perhaps Mr. Archibald—

Mr. Pitman: Yes, but there is difference in the way we treat abuse of both those two.

Mr. Archibald: Mr. Chairman, with specific reference to the LeDain commission, we have been doing extensive work with them—we have had an extensive relationship with them.

Mr. Pitman: You have had some input into that commission?

Mr. Archibald: Oh, yes, as a matter of fact the staff of LeDain commission has spent a great considerable amount of time in our shop, working with our people.

I have no idea at all of course what kind of recommendations the LeDain commission will be bringing in in August, but they are in the midst of writing their final report now and I presume it will be presented in August.

As a general answer to what I think to be the thrust of your question, I suppose it has to do partly with the determination by society, but also the determination by science, as to the relative degree of hazard of various kinds of drug substances. Certainly research has indicated pretty clearly some kind of a rating scale, if you will. We can say without hesitation, for example, that LSD is a dangerous drug, right?

Mr. Pitman: Right!

Mr. Archibald: And therefore the assets, if you will on the asset side of the scale, are very few except in terms of limited use at the

moment for—or they should be limited at the moment—for scientific research in relation to certain specific ailments such as schizophrenia. One can move through the various kinds of drug substances and develop what we would call an asset-liability scale—

Mr. Pitman: That is exactly what I am saying.

Mr. Archibald:—leading ultimately, I presume, to an area whereby social policy finally has to be determined by social policy-makers.

We can say, of course, that we know quite clearly now what the hazards of alcohol are. They are quite dangerous actually. There is no doubt about it in terms of the overall situation. But here again we are dealing very directly with a cultural phenomenon. This is the drug of choice in the North American continent. If you ask specifically about marijuana and I suppose that is part of the question, I think one has to look at it fairly clearly in terms of the asset-liability scale again. We can say, certainly in comparison with other drugs, marijuana is, probably and so far as we know now, much less dangerous—certainly much less dangerous than some of the other hallucinogens, such as LSD, or speed or amphetamines. So that on the liability scale, for example, an ever-increasing number of people start to use this drug, cannabis, and use it in increasing amounts there is absolutely no doubt it is going to have a considerable impact on health, so one really has to begin to zero in on what I would call a social asset, social liability situation in relation to decision-making.

Much has been written about marijuana. Much of it is poor stuff. I suppose there are about 2,500 scientific articles—scientific in quotes—produced on cannabis, but very little definitive research really.

This is an amazing phenomenon. The drug has been known for hundreds and hundreds and thousands of years and very little definitive research has been done on it. This is the thrust, actually, that I think research at the moment is zeroing in on the major hazards connected with the various kinds of drug substances in the physiological and pharmacological areas.

Of course one has to be pretty clear on the social cultural values involved here too, because this is very much a part of the whole process of decision-making that this country has to go through. I submit, Mr. Chairman, really, that this is a matter that should be

debated very considerably by the people of the Province of Ontario and of Canada to the end that they get a clear picture of the social assets, social liability scale. This is really where the decision has to be made in the final analysis.

Mr. Ben: What assets can you—

Mr. Archibald: Assets of what?

Mr. Ben: You say an asset-liability scale. What are the assets in so far as the use of marijuana is concerned, if any?

Mr. Archibald: This comes into the class of what is known as a recreational drug. It becomes a matter of judgement as to whether or not the number of people who presumably are using it at the present time and enjoying it is an asset or liability. It has both sides. It depends on which way you are going to look at it.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Archibald: One has to make a judgement as to whether or not it is a greater hazard to criminalize a relatively large section of the young population on the one hand or in turn make it more freely available and thereby increase the health hazards. These are the value judgements that really one has to start to make.

Mr. Ben: But is there an asset there—an asset in terms of medical use? What are the assets?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: To a great recreational—

Mr. Pitman: Recreational hallucinogenic—

Mr. Archibald: It is about the same asset that we have talked about. It is recreational.

Mr. Chairman: All right. Mr. B. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Thank you Mr. Chairman. You know yesterday I specifically asked to be on and you have bypassed me and I—

Mr. Chairman: I had five others. I apologize.

Mr. B. Newman: You do not have to apologize to me at all, Mr. Chairman, I know you are a nice fellow.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Sometimes.

Mr. B. Newman: I did not finish the statement—but, Mr. Chairman, we do happen to have a regional centre of the Alcoholism and

Drug Addiction Research Foundation in my own community. It does a commendable job, but in spite of the fact that you have one there, the problem does not seem to be diminishing at all.

The Windsor Star recently had a whole series of articles concerning the problem and concerning how the problem seems to be accelerating rather than diminishing. It is to the point where mention has been made that even in the elementary schools the use of some of the drugs mentioned here this afternoon was almost commonplace. In fact, on one of the trips taken by an elementary school to the city of Toronto to visit both the Legislature and the Science Centre it was found one of the 12-year-old youngsters had fogged a pill, as it is said, and was hospitalized as a result of that.

In an attempt to get at the problem, the city itself appointed a committee, chaired by Alderman Weeks, that went into quite a detailed look at the whole problem. They have come down with a report, made recommendations. The Alcohol and Drug Addiction Research Foundation are certainly aware of this. They likewise are aware of the POST programme in the city where those who have the problem can go to a drop-in trailer and get attention in an attempt to alleviate their difficulty. One of the programmes that has been in operation for quite some time was the Crossroads project.

They operate both a drop-in centre and a farm and I am wondering why the minister's department approximately one year ago did not provide them with funds so that they could have operated in a better fashion.

We have lost one year in our research and likewise in our attempt to help some of these youths. This year I understand there is some \$16,000 or so coming from the department to the programme. We commend the department for that type of a contribution to the Crossroads project, but we still wonder what delayed the decision on the part of the department. Could we have an answer there, Mr. Minister?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I note that the Addiction Research Foundation made a grant of \$15,000.

Mr. B. Newman: That is this year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, this year, and as far as I am concerned these have to be individual judgements as to the value of the particular programme for the dollar provided. That assessment, of course, I leave

to those who are expert in the field. Are you prepared to comment on your judgement of the particular proposal of the programme, Mr. Archibald?

Mr. Archibald: This programme actually, Mr. Chairman, had been a rather controversial one in the Windsor area. We looked at this one very carefully and particularly in relation to our local regional operation and have decided as a consequence of this review and study to make the grant this year. It has gone through.

Mr. B. Newman: I can understand that, Mr. Minister, if it was controversial, but why were not the parties involved in the programme notified that there would be no financial assistance from the department? Then they would have tried to look inward to see what their problems were. They have since then done just exactly that.

There has been some reorganization, a change of administration—certain resignations and so forth—and as a result I think the grant was given. Had they known of this problem, I would think that the concerned citizenry who were involved in the programme and the extent of the problem in the community would have led the people involved in Crossroads to re-examine themselves and come down with the necessary changes. Most of the people involved in the Crossroads programme I would say were good citizens who were deeply concerned with the problem and were groping for an answer to the problem, trying to solve it.

There was not enough direction, I do not think, given to them from the department. Had the direction been a little more emphatic and maybe more forceful, I think we would not have wasted the year. The problem, from the best of my knowledge, is not diminishing as far as drug abuse in the community is concerned. Some say that it is because Windsor is next to Detroit and the availability of these drugs increases with the proximity of an American centre.

The latest I had heard was that was not so—that most of the drugs that are available actually come from the Toronto area into Windsor rather than from Detroit. I have no reason for saying that with any finality at all, but this is what I have heard.

I wonder if the department could identify the source of the drugs in the city of Windsor? Could they say the towns located on the American border, such as Niagara Falls, Fort Erie, Sarnia, the Soo and others going east from the Toronto area, those municipalities, whether

the problem there is by far greater than it is in the Hamilton-Metro Toronto area?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do we have any evidence of drug flow patterns in the area, Mr. Archibald?

Mr. Archibald: No hard evidence actually. This is a matter on which the police generally would have the evidence in relation to this. We have some indications that drugs are flowing both ways, and to some extent we think it depends on the kind of drug. Heroin, for instance, and narcotics seem to flow, insofar as we can determine—the police will have much better evidence on this than we—from the American side over. Some of the other drugs actually would be flowing the other way, from Toronto.

Mr. B. Newman: You would be in fairly close consultation with the police, would you not, so as to know whether there is an influx of drugs into the local market? And as a result you may inform your people to be a little more alert, because the problem is going to accelerate at a given moment, and when the supply gets lower then it sort of diminishes.

When it gets into our school system, and when students say that they do not have too much difficulty buying certain types—and I would assume that they primarily talk about marijuana rather than any of the hard drugs—then it scares you, as a parent, that you have a son attending that school and that he may be just as easily involved as the next individual attending that school. It is common talk.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The flow of drugs is not a fixed trade pattern. It finds its own level. It fills vacuums, and from any reading I have done you get abrupt switches in drug flow relating to particular incidents and enforcements or changes in manufacturing patterns.

As I understand it, it is a very fluid field and I do not think you can say, as you would with boots and shoes, that they all come from one particular factory and spread out from there.

Mr. B. Newman: No, I would not for one minute conclude that, Mr. Minister. But I think that the department here would know in some fashion, maybe through police authorities, that there has been an inflow of drugs into, say, Detroit, and be prepared for that coming into the city of Windsor, or into the Province of Ontario in some fashion, and as a result your own research foundation could alert their own members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: My understanding is that we do not get these marked flows in the lighter drugs. Certainly we have a phenomenon in some flows that occur in heroin, but that again is because the heroin market is different from the speed market, and the speed market different from the marijuana market. Am I right, Mr. Archibald?

Mr. Archibald: Yes, well generally the hallucinogens will flow together pretty well. But heroin, the narcotic group really, is quite a special group and this has been a long-standing situation in relation to international trade and traffic and so on. By and large, I think this is confined at the moment to the hard-core street narcotic addict. However, there is some evidence now that heroin is moving into the younger bracket.

There is all kinds of street gossip you know, and you will hear: "Heroin is in, there is all kinds of heroin around." We have analyzed this on the basis of street gossip and have found very little evidence of heroin per se. You will find a number of other things, but so far we have not responded on the basis of street gossip. However we have analysed some substances recently which in fact were heroin, and this was being distributed through the younger market.

Mr. B. Newman: One of the problems too, when an individual becomes involved and may take some type of drug for the first time, is that if he is brought to a hospital then the RCMP are informed and so forth, and it does cause a problem there. However, Metropolitan Hospital in the city of Windsor is not interested in that aspect; they are interested in treating the youngster, and I think it is a commendable approach that they are using, and maybe it could lend itself to other communities.

You know you do not involve the police. It is the first time for an individual.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think we do. I do not think that is a fact.

Mr. B. Newman: Well other hospitals sort of resent—I should not say resent—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but you suggested that there was a direct link or responsibility assumed by a hospital in this province to get to the RCMP, did you not?

Mr. B. Newman: Well, I sort of thought that they were required to.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. B. Newman: They are not required to? All right then. I think that is a good approach.

I have another two suggestions here. One is: We are confronted with the acute need for employment for youth this summer—high school and especially university youth. Has the department ever considered using university-attending students in its drug programme, from an educational point of view, to mix with groups where possibly drugs may be commonly used, in an attempt to show to youth the fallacy of their approach to the use of the various types of drugs?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have not only thought of it, we do do it. Perhaps Mr. Archibald could tell you the extent to which we—

Mr. B. Newman: What is the name of the programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it is handled as one of your programmes is it not?

Mr. Archibald: Yes. We have students working with us actually, and with the Addiction Research Foundation. Approximately 60 students are coming on this year and working specifically in community areas throughout the province.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you have any assigned to Windsor?

Mr. Archibald: Yes, I am sorry I cannot give you the exact number of them.

Mr. B. Newman: I do not care for a number.

Mr. Archibald: In addition to this we will have approximately, I think 20 more assigned to us from the Ottawa programme.

Mr. B. Newman: Will they be both male and female?

Mr. Archibald: This is strictly for research purposes.

Mr. B. Newman: In other words, you are attempting in here to use sort of an educational approach to the youngsters to point out to them the hazards and the problems that they may be involved with once they take to the use of any of the various drugs?

Mr. Archibald: Mr. Chairman, we have done this for a number of years.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We also involve young people at the smaller community rock festivals to give us liaison and advice in relation to drug use.

Mr. B. Newman: I would like to commend the minister for that. I think that is a good, sensible approach to the problem. The other thing that I would like to maybe ask of the minister is what centre in Ontario is considered to be the centre in which the overall drug problem is most acute?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I guess urbanization is probably the main—although that is not completely true either.

Mr. Archibald: Well, in the overall situation the problem is larger in large urban centres, generally. This, or course, immediately zeros in on Toronto and some of the larger centres. But studies that we have done in various school systems outside of Toronto indicate that the general pattern of use is substantially the same. Now the percentage of youngsters that would be using them varies somewhat from place to place, but the patterns are remarkably similar, whether you are talking about a town up in the north or the Niagara Peninsula, or here in Toronto.

Mr. B. Newman: Does it follow university centres more than others?

Mr. Archibald: No.

Mr. B. Newman: That is all I had, Mr. Chairman, thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Chairman, every day we hear people talking about the need to legalize certain kinds of drugs, that they are no more harmful than cigarettes, they are no more harmful than alcohol. I often think when I am listening to them, and I am talking about people in all political parties all across the spectrum of life, that if we work at it hard enough we will find a crutch for everyone. If we keep looking we will find something to back up whatever it is that everybody needs, and we will have a society that just cannot get along without drugs of some kind or other, and I am worried about that.

I do not know of any single problem that worries me more constantly than the problem of drugs in the schools and I have raised it with the minister a couple of times since he became the minister. I spoke to his predecessor any number of times.

I want to ask about one particular thing. I want to talk about the problem of glue sniffing which falls into the category of drugs and the like. I have found in the last few

months since becoming involved with an organization in Hamilton the incidence of glue sniffing is very, very high, that the use of marijuana, they tell me, in certain high schools in the district ranges about 50 per cent of the students, and that glue sniffing occurs with at least that many in some of the high schools.

I have seen evidence of the considerable amount of it being carried on, and I think that it is a responsibility of all of us to take whatever steps have to be taken, regardless of how unpalatable the steps may be for certain segments of society, to put a stop to it or at least to control it as much as we possibly can.

Now I recognize that glue is not the only solvent-sniffing in actual fact—it is not necessarily only glue sniffing—and I spoke to the minister before because I am worried that the government does not have an integrated programme of dealing with drug abuse, including solvent sniffing.

I see the Attorney General making statements that they know who the pushers are, but I do not see much evidence of them coming to grips with it. I am going to be honest with you: I have, as I say, three children, and I do not think there is a penalty too severe to be imposed on a person who would attempt by the use of drugs to destroy the life of someone else.

I think it is time that you as a government—and do not care how popular or unpopular it is—started to put into the works a programme of getting at the people who are distributing this stuff.

I asked a question once in regard to a rock festival. There was evidence at the rock festival that drugs were being handed out, or being sold, and there was no evidence of any number being arrested at that point. The reason given to me was twofold: One was that if they had effected the arrests on the premises, it might have started a riot. All right, maybe that is valid; do not know.

The other was that they were going to wait until after the thing was over. They had singled out who they were; they were going to wait until it was over and they were going to get them on the way out.

I really am sorry, but do not think that is adequate. I do not think it is enough to know that someone is pushing something, to watch while they sell it, to know that someone else is using it and to take the responsibility for perhaps the well-being of the person who is using it, and say, "We will not

put a stop to it right now. We will let them use the stuff up and then we will stop them outside the grounds." We are just not putting forward nearly enough effort.

The minister is not aware of it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I could not hear what was said.

Mr. Deans: I am sorry. We are just not—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): I was just wondering, Mr. Chairman, whether this is not in the law enforcement branch rather than health.

Mr. Deans: Oh it is; it comes together. I agree with you. I am sorry. I agree with you; it comes under law enforcement. The problem is really that to come to grips—

Mr. Singer: He does not control the police.

Mr. Deans: Okay, but to come to grips with the drug problem means enforcing the law. It means that the government cannot separate the drug problem into three or four departments as we now do. The problem affects the educational system. The enforcement is the responsibility of the Attorney General; the investigation and the research is the responsibility of The Department of Health. Because of this we do not have any real programme of dealing with it; by isolating the three factors we do not have a real problem of coming to grips with it.

The whole bit about glue sniffing, if I can return to that for a moment, is that I asked whether it might not be possible in the Province of Ontario to have additives placed in the various solvents that are most commonly used, and the answer that I got was (a) that it was basically a federal problem, which I suppose is true; and (b), that because there are so many solvents it would be so difficult and costly that it really might not be effective.

Well I do not care if it is costly. I am going to be honest! I do not give a damn if it is costly. I do not care if nail polish stinks to high heaven and you cannot use it any more, or if nail polish remover smells so bad you have got to put it on out in the backyard. I could not care less.

I do not care whether they have got to find another way of sticking model airplanes together, rather than the use of the kind of solvent glue that they use. If they have got to find another way, and we cannot make model airplanes until they do, then that is too bad. But we have got to stop it.

I do not care if we cannot use the same kind of floor strippers that we once used, because the smell of them is enticing to a glue sniffer or a solvent sniffer. If that is the case, then that too is too bad.

It does not worry me that maybe the cost goes up a bit in some of those products because they have to place additives in them. What worries me is that if we do not put the additives in, we will get more and more people involved in the use of those things, and I have come to the conclusion that the educational programme, good though it may be, is not nearly sufficient.

The educational programme may well be keeping down the growth rate of the problem, but it certainly is not reducing the problem. The problem may not be growing as fast as it would if we did not have an educational programme, but it is not doing a thing to get at the problem that now exists. There are very few people who stop using it because of the educational programme. Once they get involved and once they find that there is a purpose in it, or they get some sort of a kick out of it, then it is more difficult than simply education to stop them from using these things.

I may be wrong, but I do not think that in the case of solvents if there was no smell at all it would be enticing for the average person to try using. I do not think anyone gets a kick out of smelling or sniffing something they do not get any smell from. I am positive that in such a highly sophisticated technological society we can surely insist on the elimination of whatever it is that entices people to use these things. That is a responsibility of government.

I do not agree—and I want to say this quite plainly—I do not agree with the legalization of marijuana. I do not care if it is not any worse than alcohol; I do not care if it is not any worse than cigarettes. Alcohol and cigarettes have created havoc for hundreds of thousands of people; they have put them in situations, for heavens sake, where they were totally unable to cope. There is no point in us saying that this will not be any worse; it will be just as bad, or practically as bad. And I want the government to say point blank, in spite of people that I know of, "We are not going to legalize marijuana; we are not going to permit it. If the federal government does it we are going to oppose it, and we are not going to allow it to happen in the Province of Ontario. If we have to, we will go to court over it; we will fight it all the way down the line." That is the kind of strength that is required to come to grips with this thing.

I cannot tell you how strongly I feel about this. I look at my kids and I often wonder if it would not be better just to pack them all up and take them away somewhere where I could keep them—

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): Take them up to Algoma.

Mr. Deans: Algoma is just as bad. When you look around you—recently I had an example given to me of children being given peppermint candies laced with LSD. Now how do you cope with that kind of thing? I am not blaming you for the fact that it is not being done. I cannot blame you for it; I do not know how to do it myself. I just know that if we do not make that law sufficiently strong, and if we do not enforce it right to the nth degree then we are going to continue to face the problem every single day of our lives, perhaps forever. If we continue to face it, we are going to have a society that is not going to be fit to live in. I worry that that is going to happen.

I think that if The Department of Health or the phase of the department—the section of the department that is involved in drug abuse—were perhaps within the ambit of the responsibility of another department—not that it is not a health matter but simply so that we could get everything under the one umbrella—then maybe we could have better enforcement of existing laws, and maybe we could even have different laws than we presently have. I am worrying about the guy who is getting it, but I want to get at the guy who is selling it, because if we do not get that guy we will never stop it, and legalizing it is not the answer.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. M. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Chairman, during these estimates the last time we discussed the fact that there were not any laboratories available for identification of the different types of drugs which are being used. I would like to ask the minister, or perhaps Mr. Archibald, whether there was a lab at one time in operation, if there are any labs at the present time that are able to define the particular type of drugs being used, or are we still in the state of limbo where the police cannot—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, they are going ahead with a programme of developing; first we receive a licence, I think it is from the federal government, or formal approval

from the federal government, that can designate either our government labs or even private labs in the province as agencies for the analysis of drugs. Insofar as the provincial labs are concerned we have a programme in operation now.

Mrs. M. Renwick: How about the transport of them, Mr. Minister?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The programme comes into force June 1 within our provincially-operated laboratories.

Mr. Deans: Could I say one final point.

I would like to make just one point after the member for Scarborough Centre, I wanted to tell the minister something. I am sorry.

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is all right.

Mr. Archibald, through you, Mr. Chairman, have you heard or would you be interested at all in trying to experiment with the type of thing which was done in Niagara Falls, New York and in Buffalo, New York, where music groups went into high schools and played rock music for psychedelic dancing? They charged for these dances, and the gimmick that they had managed to get started in the school was that this was the time to kick the drug habit and drop them all in the middle of the floor and dance around them, and so on and so forth, and this was quite successful. It was successful enough to draw \$6 million for Mr. Rockefeller's budget to do it on a larger scale; and this was a Canadian rock group that had decided to just try it in a school or two in Niagara Falls area.

I think that so much of the initial attempt is simply because it is the in-thing, and that if we could by some mere contrivance such as this type of activity get it that the in-thing was to kick the habit rather than to seek it, or to think it was smart to have it and participate in it, we would have achieved something that might just start the ball rolling the other way.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Archibald and the foundation have participated in a number of experiments similar to this, in relation to your festival, small festivals. Perhaps you could outline for the member what your participation has been.

Mr. Archibald: Yes, I do not think it is anything quite as specific as the member for Scarborough Centre spoke about, although we have had some discussions with the music group, actually in terms of their role in this field. But the one option we have had and

tried on sort of a community basis is the actual development and co-sponsorship with the community and a variety of agencies and individuals in the community, a small type rock festival on a community base level, giving very considerable responsibility to the young people to plan, utilize and police the operation. We are rather pleased, actually, with this kind of phenomena as an alternative to hanging around the street corner and consuming drugs. So these kind of activities and these kind of thrusts are going forth.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Did you actually find the young people were willing to part with the drugs, that they were willing to take part in kicking the habit as it were?

Mr. Archibald: It was not couched in those terms. We find that the young people, of course, are particularly effective in policing the situation and in terms of transmission of information at that level.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Whether we can specifically in this kind of an exercise see a pile of drugs in the centre of the floor the answer is no. I would judge from our experience we have not pointed ourselves in that direction. But what we have been able to do—and I think that any government must do—is become much, much more acute on the way we communicate.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The best medium for communication with young people is the musical medium. Indeed, in thinking about this and talking about it, my mind goes back to the impact of the old revival meetings. The same way music and crowds triggered the communication of religious messages in the old days of the revival meeting, would it not be great if we could search for those ingredients where the drug message plus music plus the big crowd was communicating an atmosphere that was somewhat similar? So communication of an attitude rather than a specific curt answer or a pile of drugs becomes important.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Apparently this communication worked best by leaving it in the hands of the groups that were willing to do the music part of this, rather than, if you would say, a government dance, which could develop into one of the stipulations on the earmarked \$6 million; that government not be any part of arranging these dances, that they be arranged through the schools and through the students and be carried on in a

very informal manner, although on a charge basis. They felt that the pupils had to feel that they were going to something for which they paid, not something that was just open to all comers.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And as Mr. Archibald said, organized by them.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Right!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Because there is nothing that can turn them off psychologically more than the presence of uniform police or bald-headed men.

Mrs. M. Renwick: You were saying on June 1 the Ontario lab will begin its work of analysing the drug samples that doctors and those fighting drug abuse—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Doctors?

Mrs. M. Renwick: Doctors, how—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Those fighting it of course are just one relay away from referring it through to the doctors.

Mrs. M. Renwick: And have we overcome the problem of how to transport these drugs?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, that is part of the federal permission, is it not. I do not know how far—

Mr. Archibald: The law stipulates, Mr. Chairman, that a doctor may receive a drug from a patient and deliver that drug to a laboratory for analysis.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right, so the doctor is still the intervening one. It does not permit a person to walk in off the street and say, "Try that pill for me and let me know if it is good acid or bad acid."

Mrs. M. Renwick: What if I found it in my child's room?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You can go to your family doctor and he can take it to the lab and give you a report on it. Or he can send it through the mail as well.

Mrs. M. Renwick: I think that is very important, that it can be sent through the mail.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We think—

Mrs. M. Renwick: There is a great difference between—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, it can be. I just wondered if we were waiting for legal interpretation.

Mrs. M. Renwick: It can be, thank you.

Mr. Deans: I just want to tell you a story. It is often said that it is hard to control solvent sniffing because the ingredients are so readily available, you can walk into any store and buy a little package of airplane glue and the like. I have it reported to me by young people who are doing it, doing it every day, or every week, whenever it is they do it, that it is not that they can go in and buy the ingredients, they can go in and get the ingredients in package form. There are certain merchants—one in particular that I know of, or that I am told of—sells the stuff. He will sell you two things of glue, and a plastic bag, for heaven's sake, and the price is about three times what it is worth, but he will sell it to the kids nevertheless. I would put him away for life, or worse.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The only observation I can make on this is that the hawks and the doves, on this question, are found in all three parties, in my experience in the estimates, Mr. Chairman. What we are really dealing with, as Mr. Archibald said, is a whole society questioning its approach.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, this is a fair background for the whole thing that I wanted to talk about. As I read the LeDain report, the first one, and as I have done a multitude of others, including a series of recommendations put forward by members of the junior bar association, the Canadian bar, and there are others, and Mr. Archibald today as he graded the drugs, marijuana is up at the top as the least offensive and then you go down to more serious ones. In light of the very substantial agitation to remove marijuana and cannabis from the provisions of The Narcotics Control Act, I wondered particularly if the minister and/or his officials have any opinions on that and if they do, have they made any representations in this regard to Mr. Munro, the federal Minister of Health?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As I recall it, the last round on this did not involve us. As Mr. Archibald mentioned, there has been, from a research and scientific point of view, very close liaison. But the last round, I think, that occurred in this related to the Attorneys General meeting in Halifax of last summer; was it not? I know of nothing in relation to government policy or progress.

Mr. Singer: This is the very point I make, because as I listened to the member for Wentworth and your phrase about the hawks and

the doves, I worry, because of my constituency, which is an urban constituency with pretty densely populated high schools, most of which I know are infested by drugs. As a lawyer when I listen to some of the parents of these youngsters and to the youngsters themselves when they get high, I just wonder if society does any great good by hauling before our judicial system a youngster who happened to be caught in possession of marijuana. I wonder whether putting the judges within the very strict bounds of the provisions of The Narcotics Control Act, insofar particularly as marijuana is concerned, makes any real sense.

I would not say that we legalize marijuana. I do not think we know enough about it. From anything that I have been able to read, I am not at all satisfied in my own mind that we can, or should, legalize it. But it would seem to me that there would be a much more reasonable approach of society, rather than try to deal with marijuana offender, particularly those in possession, under the very strict prohibitions and punishments set out in The Narcotics Control Act. I do not know that it is necessarily just a legal conclusion. The Attorney General when making suggestions to other Attorneys General and/or the Minister of Justice, should be acting, at least in my opinion, on the best information he has available through The Department of Health.

I am trying to put you specifically on the spot if I can. Have you an opinion on the continuation of marijuana as one of those drugs listed under the provisions of The Narcotics Control Act?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not going to give an opinion on that, to the extent that the first step—

Mr. Singer: I am not asking for your personal opinion, I want the department's opinion, if there is one, or Mr. Archibald's opinion.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think the problem is that. Is it not proper that the first step be taken at the legal level, namely the moral level? So far as The Department of Health is concerned, we know through the Addiction Research Foundation certain facts. As Mr. Archibald has said, we do not know anything like what we need to know about cannabis. In fact we shall support the expertise that is available in the department and in the foundation, as we must any policy decision taken by the government as a whole,

but I do not think it is reasonable to try to grapple with a problem so fundamental on the isolated basis of health. We can answer one question, as has been answered. All drugs, of course, are the concern of The Department of Health; all are. Where in that spectrum do you assert the moral or legal penal function? I do not think it is for me to say, but it is certain the foundation can give you a very good idea of the spectrum, as Mr. Archibald was saying—

Mr. Singer: I appreciate that. As I sit here and listen to some of the hawks, I agree with you. It is not the exclusive opinion of any one party. I think it cuts across the three parties in the House. I just cannot believe in my own mind that prohibition, whether it be cigarettes, and/or alcohol, and/or drugs, is the answer; or that we are going to be able to enforce it through our law on it. We had the dismal experiment of the Vollstead Act in the United States and an attempt at prohibition here in this province, and it just does not work because the people do not believe in it.

Yes; we should be tough and as tough as we can with perhaps not the second youngster up the line but the guy who supplies five times up the line, the big merchandiser, the wholesaler. How do we find him? It is very tough. But it is a shame to me to see an ordinary, average teenager who comes from a reasonable home, happening to get caught one day in possession of a joint of marijuana and off he goes through this whole thing, when even Mr. Archibald says that in this broad spectrum this is one of the least. It is there, and it is there in fantastic quantities here in Metropolitan Toronto. Any one of us who comes from Metropolitan Toronto and has been into a high school knows it is there. Someone said, and I do not know whether it came out of your reports or not, there is a pusher in every high school in Metro. I would believe that—at least one—and one I think is a very small number. They are there. The member for Yorkview, whose riding is next to mine, knows the same high schools that I do and it is sold. Marijuana, certainly, is sold in high schools.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think it is there.

Mr. Singer: All right. How does it get there?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will paraphrase my remarks, I think, and perhaps narrow down my thinking to be a little more accurate. I would hesitate greatly to see The Depart-

ment of Health in any way get involved in the field of sanctions. In other words, we serve health in the same way a physician serves his patient. I think it is improper, as I have argued sometimes, that the physician should become involved in sanctions. I think that The Department of Health should be very clear of getting involved, even in debate, on the question of sanctions.

Mr. Singer: Except this, Mr. Chairman, I think the department has to have a very substantial concern about the effect of our laws, and have an opinion that it is prepared to express. Undoubtedly, it is not prepared to express it now to the Attorney General of Ontario about the effect of enforcing our laws.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Absolutely!

Mr. Singer: You have to be concerned about the youngster who is hauled before the provincial judge because a policeman caught him last night with a joint of marijuana, and what is going to happen to him. He is one out of thousands who is caught and if he is dealt with harshly by a particular provincial court judge on a particular morning, his whole future attitude toward law enforcement can be negative. He knows hundreds of people who smoke marijuana—and “So what?”—sort of thing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are gravely concerned, but within the framework of health.

Mr. Singer: All right! Let me try another aspect of the same thing. To what extent, if at all, does your department co-operate in the training of special task police force officers? The Metropolitan Toronto police, for instance, have plain clothesmen who intermingle in certain more obvious problem areas in Yorkville and that sort of thing. Is there any co-operation as between your department and the police forces and/or the Attorney General's department in training these people? Effective police forces are one of the best things we can have and well trained police officers with very important technical knowledge would be a great asset in controlling this problem.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Archibald, can you tell us about the liaison?

Mr. Archibald: Yes, we have participated in training, actually at the police college, with particular reference to drugs and this phenomenon, and so on.

Mr. Singer: That is sort of a broad brush to get a lecture to the people who are going through the police college about drugs in the province. Where you get what I think is a much more sophisticated approach, is by the Metropolitan Toronto police, where they pick some of their brightest young men and put them in plain clothes and leave them in Yorkville for a while. Should these people not have every advantage of whatever knowledge you can give them?

Mr. Archibald: Well there are special seminars for this particular group actually within the police college framework.

Mr. Singer: I am not talking about the police college, because the police college is sort of a specified training that applies to all the—

Mr. Archibald: No, in the building where the police college is housed.

Mr. Singer: Oh I am sorry, you are not talking about the Ontario Provincial Police?

Mr. Archibald: No, no!

Mr. Singer: Well, how many Metropolitan Toronto police do you lecture to, or give courses to presently?

Mr. Archibald: I am sorry, I could not give you the number actually. These are persons selected by the Metropolitan Toronto police for special work and people who are especially interested and detailed in this field, and consequently—

Mr. Singer: You do not have any idea how many there might be?

Mr. Archibald: I am sorry, no I do not.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Are you able to meet their demands for training?

Mr. Archibald: Yes.

Mr. Singer: What kind of a course do you give them? Is it an hour or 10 hours or 100 hours? How many days or weeks do you instruct them, or lecture to them, or discuss with them?

Mr. Archibald: I am sorry, I really cannot give you the detail of this particular course. This has been an on-going thing actually, with seminars and workshops scheduled at various times, but I could not give you the detail of the content of the course, other than that the content from our point of view would be very particularly related to the

scientific base of various kinds of drug substances—the educational programme, using audio-visual material that we develop, and also of course using a lot of our young people in connection with this whole process, particularly through our 12 Madison operation.

Mr. Singer: I would be very interested, Mr. Chairman, in getting some more detail on that. Obviously it is not available now, but I would like to know how many policemen are able to take advantage of this, how many hours they spend taking these courses and what the content of the course might be. It has occurred to me on several occasions that this could be a most worthwhile and helpful sort of a thing.

Mr. Archibald: We can prepare and make available for you a memorandum and get more if that is not adequate, sir.

Mr. Singer: Now one other point. You made some remark about rock festivals just a moment ago and I did not catch it. What was it that you said?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I was describing the exercise, which obviously Mr. Archibald knows more about than I do, of the involvement of the foundation in—what is the word I want? not participating in, not supervising—just being involved in smaller rock festivals in the province. There they encourage, as he mentioned, through the community, the development of young people's organizations who handle the music, handle the organization. From this they get input from the foundation in relation to drug use and the drug problem, and in those cases it comes back to what we were discussing with the member for Scarborough Centre, the effort that the foundation is making to build up a communicative line at this level.

The great leap of course, and the concern of this province, is from the small community rock festivals to the kind of monstrosity like the great commercially built Strawberry Fields sort of thing. That is a very different thing. There, of course, the involvement is purely from a healing point of view in that their heads and bodies become our responsibility, and we have had our experience in that and are of course extremely concerned as a department with this large commercial phenomenon.

Mr. Singer: Well you certainly share my concern. I have asked the Attorney General three or four questions along this line and I have not been able to get any specific

answers. I do not know if there are any specific answers, but there were festivals last summer.

There was the unique pronouncement by the chief superintendent of the Ontario Provincial Police the other day that the best way to deal with rock festivals is to keep the police away from them, "then there is no trouble." This scares heck out of me.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a question of control. You are dealing, you know, with 1,000 kids, 2,000 kids maybe up to 5,000 kids.

Mr. Singer: We had 15,000 in High Park in Toronto on Sunday. At Mosport there will be 25,000. There is one scheduled for August.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What concerns us—

Mr. Singer: Yes, but what do you do?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our fear is not that it is 5,000 or 2,000 or 3,000, because this has been in the scope of the kind of thing that we in Health can deal with. We are facing a different phenomenon of 125,000 to 150,000 or the threat or the promise I read the other day of more than 250,000.

Mr. Singer: You are not going to get that kind of attendance in Ontario. I think you could look to 50,000 maybe.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Strawberry Fields was how many? The Mosport one.

Mr. Archibald: About 50,000.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How many? Forty thousand?

Mr. Singer: One of the controls on this thing, which is a pure accident, is that commercially they have been unsuccessful and the fees that they have been charging—\$8, \$10 and \$12 to get in—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Maybe it is commercially unsuccessful for some, but not for others.

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Not for the dope peddlars. They are making a fortune.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is what I mean.

Mr. Singer: No, but what concerns me, Mr. Chairman, is with this in view, and with certain experience, I get very disturbed by

the pronouncements of the chief inspector of the Ontario Provincial Police.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is true when you are talking about 100,000 people.

Mr. Singer: This is what they have done and this bothers me. All right, I will take that up with the Attorney General in due course.

What do you feel your role is? What is the role of The Department of Health when you get 50,000 kids? Is there a role?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have got to organize as we would for a new city—an instantaneous city. We have got to see, as we would in a city of 50,000, that they have the capacity to handle people who need hospitalization and who need short-term medical treatment, and who need sanitation. It is a sudden city, insofar as the department is concerned.

Mr. Singer: Is it reasonable to expect we are going to have a government of Ontario policy insofar as regulating rock festivals is concerned?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will leave that to the government as a whole, to speak about.

Mr. Singer: Okay.

An hon. member: Why should you remove this from the local municipalities?

Mr. Singer: Because they cannot handle it.

Hon. R. T. Potter (Minister without Portfolio): What the hell do you mean, they cannot handle it?

Mr. Minister, I just wonder if we get carried away sometimes with drugs. I think Mr. Archibald will bear me out when I say that probably the biggest problem we have got is alcoholics and not drugs users. Is that not right, Mr. Archibald?

I see in the paper where they have written up on what you said yesterday, that you hoped that we would eventually get to the stage where we could treat chronic alcoholics under The Department of Health—it is a health problem.

I wonder if we should not include the whole concept of drugs, whether it be alcohol or marijuana or whatever it is. I cannot help but think of the story about the patient that phoned her doctor and said, "Oh doctor, I have had a terrible shock. I just discovered my son smoking marijuana. Would you send me over some tranquilizers."

And I think the attitude that we in our generation take about marijuana is perhaps a little bit out of order. We go out and get drunk as a skunk but then we complain because somebody is smoking marijuana. I do not know too much about it myself, but none of us does.

Mr. T. P. Reid: That is the problem though, do you not think?

Hon. Mr. Potter: I think the problem is that perhaps we should take a pretty good look at this and treat it all as the same rather than try to isolate marijuana from alcohol.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You do not have too many alcoholics at 15 or 16.

Hon. Mr. Potter: Oh yes, you get a lot of alcoholics. This is the problem.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well they do not get criminal records from it.

Mr. Singer: The Minister without Portfolio entered into this conversation by suggesting that the local police could take care of the festival. The member for Dufferin-Simcoe asked the question, and a very serious question, about a particular township in his municipality. I do not know how many policemen there are there, maybe two or three, if any.

Mr. A. W. Downer (Dufferin-Simcoe): Maybe it is policed by the provincial police.

Mr. Singer: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Potter: I said with the—

Mr. Singer: The local municipality cannot do it. The problem is province-wide.

Hon. Mr. Potter: No, it is not really. The local township can pass the regulatory laws, it is right there in the Act, they can do this if they want to.

Mr. Singer: What can they do? Tell us how.

Hon. Mr. Potter: Well according to The Department of Municipal Affairs there are two bylaws. There is one regulatory bylaw they can pass which will regulate the land usage—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 701 carried? We have had a lot of discussion.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 701 is carried. Item 1.

Mr. Ferrier: This is only alcohol and drug addiction. I would like to deal with another item there concerning central drug purchasing. I understand Parcost comes in on that vote.

Mr. Chairman: This vote is carried. We have had 24 hours of discussion, not altogether when we were in committee here on this.

Mr. T. P. Reid: On a point of order, you cannot arbitrarily decide when you have heard enough debate.

Mr. Chairman: We have heard these people, the member was not here—yesterday afternoon on this subject, last evening and this afternoon. We have spent so much time on one item!

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to you, you are not the arbiter on deciding when we have had enough or not enough. Let the members vote.

Mr. Ruston: No, it is not a voting situation.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You see, the debate is over when everybody has had their say.

Mr. Ferrier: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that we were considering the alcohol and drug addiction research vote and that we were saving our other comments on the main office vote until this particular item was carried. Once this item is carried, I feel we should have the right to discuss other items on the main office vote. I would like to discuss the Parcost programme in some little degree and include with that central drug purchasing. Is that in the first vote?

Perhaps I could pursue that to some extent. In replying to some remarks that I made on this subject yesterday, the minister said that the department was moving into an expanded programme of purchasing for the hospitals, the Ontario Hospitals, the correctional institutions and so on. This, of course, is going to mean that there will be considerable savings to those particular departments in the cost of drugs, and one has to laud this kind of thing.

It will mean a saving to the taxpayers but there is another dimension to this problem. That is that the consumer who is buying from the retail pharmacist, who buys his from the wholesaler, will not benefit from this kind of saving. He still will be in the position of pay-

ing the relatively high cost of drugs. There has been action under way in the Province of Manitoba, where they are going to move into a central drug purchasing agency to supply the retail pharmacist, to do the purchasing from the manufacturers and supply the retail pharmacists.

I understand on a number of occasions that the federal minister, Mr. Basford, has threatened this kind of action with the pharmaceutical firms to try to bring the cost of drugs down, but he has never followed through with it. Reading certain reports and some of the research that was done when some federal study was made, it showed that the drug industry in this country, on very many occasions, is charging unconscionable prices and realizing profits in a way that other industries do not realize. The companies are saying that they are spending lots of money on research and, in fact, they are spending precious little. They are paying a good deal in their detailed programmes for the samples that they are giving away to various physicians and in the advertising that they do in the various medical journals.

It has been stated, I think, that these journals are supplied to a good many of the doctors free of charge because of the large amount of advertising done by the companies.

I think the Parcost programme is to be commended in many respects because it has brought about, I understand, a nine or ten per cent decrease in the cost of certain prescriptions in the province, as I say—

Dr. A. E. Dyer (Parcost Programme): Overall cost!

Mr. Ferrier: Overall cost? Well, this is to be commended, but I still think that the benefits of large bulk purchasing which you are going to realize for the various institutions should also be made available to the consumer of drugs who must buy from a pharmacy on the basis of the prescription that they get. The same kind of savings should be available for them. I wonder if the government is prepared to accept this kind of suggestion, or to do research on it on the line that has been done in Manitoba—and I believe, has been suggested by Mr. Basford at times—and perhaps move into this type of programme.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a very big site. I think that for the time being we are going to have our hands full expanding our institutional buying. That will be a very big centralization.

Mr. Singer: Order, so that we can hear the minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we will be pretty well occupied in the immediate future with expanding our institutional buying to cover, as we hope it will one day, all tax-supported or government-supported institutions. I am interested, of course, in the Manitoba experiment, although you cannot translate what happens in Manitoba to what would happen or fit a province of the nature of Ontario.

I think we will have to watch it because it would strike me as being quite a deep question to get into here because bulk purchasing of drugs totally for the whole population I think would change the role of the pharmacist very significantly. It would affect more than that—its practical application is much broader than the theory. Yes, we watch and will be particularly watchful of the Manitoba experiment, but I cannot say that I can picture this department launching itself into public drugs this year, on anything as close as that.

I would be very interested, for instance, in having more commentary on the collateral effects of such a programme. What does it do to the relationship between the pharmacist, the patient, the doctor, and the whole distribution system?

Mr. Ferrier: But you are certainly open-minded about it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, we never sleep.

Mr. Ferrier: There is one further question about Parcost that I would like to ask. We debated at some length last year the fact that on the comparative drug index there were certain manufacturers' products that did not measure up to the standard that was set by the department. The concern was expressed that perhaps drugs had been let on the market that did not do the things that they claimed they did, and that they were prescribed and they really did not help cure the condition that the patients had.

The question was asked at that time if this was this the reason that certain drugs were left off the index but still were retailed in the Province of Ontario where certain unsuspecting people were getting worthless drugs. Now we have the federal Food and Drug Directorate that allows a drug to go on the market. You mentioned in questioning in the House that you are quite satisfied with the work

that they did and there was a very amicable relationship between the provincial and the federal governments. Does this in fact take place—the drugs that are not permitted to go on the comparative drug index, are these inferior drugs or are there other reasons why they are not in? Is the public being supplied with drugs that are not going to do what they claim they are going to do?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, the whole approach to Parcost revolves around the basis of the exercise and that is to develop an index, a compendium, of good drugs. In other words, we do not approach the thing from the point of view of assessing all drugs as one would in a total pharmacopoeia, or purport to be a duplication of the assessment of dangerous drugs which is a responsibility which the federal government discharges through it offices.

There are a number of reasons why particular drugs may not be in this edition and might not be in the next or might be back in the next edition because the editions of Parcost will be coming out every six months or so. Over the years it is an evolving compendium.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Sometimes it is because in the judgement of the committee—and it is a very high powered committee that we have assessing drugs—they are just not satisfied, which is very different from saying that the drugs which are not going on are dangerous.

Mr. Ferrier: What are the criteria if they are not satisfied?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The criteria are quite subtle as a matter of fact. One of the criteria will be whether there is enough of the drug sold by volume and dollar value to warrant its being put on the list. From a purely practical point of view, we want to give the physicians a list of those that are selling in large volume in specific, generally heavily used, fields. That is our first step.

Secondly, drugs get on the index by application, as I understand it, and if a particular firm—and we have had incidences of this—has not filed its application for it particular product to be included, it may not be on it.

Thirdly, we—not me, certainly, but the committee, whose names I know will impress you if we have them handy—assess the nature

of the business of the pharmaceutical supplier itself. In other words, we permit them to make judgements as to the general quality concern of the company. Company A, for instance, might make a batch of perfectly fine drugs with the highest quality today—it might not tomorrow—it might the day after—we cannot test them all; but their approach to their advertising, their approach to their business responsibilities, their financial standing, anything in the nature of the total responsibility of the particular firm, can be and in certain circumstances is, taken into consideration in our saying whether we want to be bothered—we are not outlawing their drugs—but whether we want to be bothered, in this scheme based on mass use of basic drugs, with that particular company. This group may feel: “Why should we?” And that will be another reason for them to be left off.

As far as I know, we have not left anyone off on the simple basis of dangerous drugs, have we?

Dr. Dyer: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Have we got the latest edition? Well, what have the federal people done about it?

Dr. Dyer: It is being recalled. This drug is being recalled from the market.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is being recalled from the market, and we leave that to the Food and Drug administration, do we?

Dr. Dyer: The committee informed the company and advised them to recall the drug and at the same time advised the federal government and they in turn followed it up to see that they did withdraw.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not want to get into that disciplining side.

Mr. Ferrier: Just these companies that you say—Company A that may have a good batch today and not tomorrow—is there quality control carried out on that company by the federal government, or are they kind of lax here?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we are satisfied with what they are doing, with what they have, in the policing of the quality of drugs. There is also the policing carried out, of course, through the responsibility of the pharmacist himself. And to a degree, I suppose the medical profession as a matter of knowledge picks up information as to drug quality in relation to particular firms.

The point of our exercise is to produce, and it has statistically and successfully produced a basic general index which we feel has implemented a drop in drug pricing, the total of drug pricing. It influences, of course, not only Parcost pharmacists, it influences the whole drug market as a general depressant when you see comparative costs.

Mr. Singer: What is your statistical basis for that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Surveys. We have got—how many surveys?

Dr. Dyer: We surveyed before the index was brought out and again six months after. There was a survey before the index was published of a selected group of pharmacies which were representative across the province, and this was set up statistically so it would be representative. And then, after the index had been published, six months later, we collected information from another group of pharmacies that at this point were Parcost pharmacies and the price comparisons between the prescriptions in both pharmacies were compared, before and after. Now, this was across the board—not just products that were in the list itself, but across the board.

Mr. Singer: How broad is your sampling?

Dr. Dyer: Our sampling this year will involve 145 pharmacies selected, using a random selection technique, from across the province; from all areas, urban, rural, and representing both chain pharmacies as well as independents.

Mr. Singer: Do you have any comparative or sustained figures, say, from the Bureau of Statistics, to back up these conclusions or are they not that far on?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think DBS touches this or is capable of touching it. I am advised by Dr. Charron that the DBS can produce gross figures only.

Dr. Charron: Their programme is not nearly as sophisticated as this in terms of an on-going analysis of just what is happening to prescription drug costs.

Mr. Young: How far down do drug prices come? You had the two surveys.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It looks about 10 per cent.

Mr. Young: Ten per cent.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Ten per cent on the overall.

Mr. Young: On the overall. Then, in the first case, the prices were too high. And have they come down far enough to satisfy the authorities or could we look for more?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No we can look for more. We are dealing with two things. In this day and age you are always pleased when things are not going up, so you have got to add, I think, that consideration in as well. In a day when everything is going up, they are coming down. The impact, I think, will be felt on a continuing basis for many many years because the impact is increased as more and more physicians start to educate themselves and get into the habit of using the Parcost index.

Mr. Young: Would the survey show whether the price is being squeezed out at the manufacturer's level or from the pharmacist himself?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, as far as we can see—and correct me if I am wrong—it is coming out at the manufacturer's level. As I say, we should look for continuing increases—

Mr. Young: Decreases.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —or decreases—in cost because of the generally depressing effect that this kind of a system has on drug marketing. You know, the exposure itself to open comparative pricing. And the other, as I say, very importantly, is the general growing acceptance of the medical profession of the Parcost index.

Mr. Young: When the index was first established, Canadian drug prices were the highest in the world, we were told. Are they down to the world level, yet, are they below that or do they still have some distance to come before they get down to an average level?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know anyone who can answer that.

Dr. Dyer: They were not the highest; they were about three-quarters of the way. The United States and France were higher, for example. Canada was up there because we are influenced by the U.S. market; we are influenced by the U.S. pricing practices.

Mr. Young: The difference was pretty slight?

Dr. Dyer: It was slight, yes. But one of the important things of this survey was that it is one of the first surveys that has been done on actual data collected from pharmacists. It did not involve only survey data or simply information collected from writing to the firms. People went around and looked at their records and took the cost figures off their prescriptions. So we have actual data on the cost of the ingredients and the fee charged.

Mr. Singer: Has there been a North American readjustment in prices? Have you done continuing surveys, or do you have records from the United States? At the same time our prices might have been falling 10 per cent, have the United States prices perhaps been falling, or are they at the same level they were before?

Dr. Dyer: I think the trend has been upward in the rest of the market as far as drug prices are concerned. Drug prices like everything else are following the general trend, so I think, as the minister was pointing out, there is a difference between a fall and not gaining as well.

Mr. Singer: In relation to what you claim is the 10 per cent successful effect of Parcost, during that same six-month period have American drugs gone up, stayed stable or gone down in price?

Dr. Dyer: One of the interesting things about the survey is that it has not shown that the actual price of any one drug has changed; it has been a utilization of less expensive drugs. What has happened is the cost of the ingredients in the prescription has decreased, which indicates that people are using drugs lower down on the chart. The price of that particular item may not have actually changed—we do not think it has—but the drugs that are being used are the ones that are lower down on the chart.

Mr. Singer: So that the selectivity process being exercised by those doctors who read your index is having some effect. Now what about the possibility of a selectivity process being used by pharmacists? A number of pharmacists have said to me—and I find they are not a brave group, because they hesitate to talk as a group on anything—"Why do you not let the pharmacists have some discretion instead of just sending us to a bottle which is labelled?" I have watched them. The pharmacist gets his prescription and he takes seven pills out of a specifically labelled bottle—that is all he can do, because that

is what it says on the prescription—puts them in a package and charges his \$1.75 plus the drug cost.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are at grips with that. The Porter committee, set up by my predecessor, will be reporting in two weeks' time I guess and it will deal with substitution. One part of it is substitution of brands, and the other consideration which must be distinguished is substitution of drugs. So in about two or three weeks' time we will see what that committee has to report. I am advised that happily there is no great divergence in principle between the advice and input they are receiving from the OMA on the one hand and the College of Pharmacists on the other.

Mr. Singer: It just occurs to me that the doctors, being as busy as they apparently are from some of the figures we were discussing in another context, might find they

have not got too much time to look at your book, whereas the pharmacist could perhaps make better use of the book if they were permitted to do so.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Last week at the OMA convention we issued a pocket edition of Parcost which was gobbled up; there was great interest by the profession present there. I think your overall view is right there: it would save time and money.

Mr. Chairman: It is 6 o'clock. We will recess until 8 o'clock. Mr. Pitman is next, then Mr. Kennedy; we will follow that order of speakers.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to talk about the College of Nurses, I would assume we are still on that first vote; we can work our way down that.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, May 18, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1971

The committee resumed at 8:30 o'clock p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

On vote 701:

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pitman is the first speaker.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to talk a little bit about the grant which was made to the College of Nurses, particularly of \$20,000. I wonder if the minister would explain why there was a grant of \$20,000 to the College of Nurses?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask you to speak close to the mikes because there is noise outside and I do not think they can hear too well up here.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): You mean why \$20,000, or why anything?

Mr. Pitman: Why \$20,000? What is it used for? What is the purpose of this \$20,000? I assume this is a public commitment to the College of Nurses?

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister of Health): Mr. Chairman, this was a grant that was made to the College of Nurses when they took over part of the responsibility which had formerly been covered by departmental staff. It was considered \$20,000 represented the additional cost that would accrue to the College of Nurses and it was made in the form of a grant to them for carrying out inspectorial duties that had previously been carried out by the department.

Mr. Pitman: What exactly is the role of the College of Nurses? What is their total responsibility in the light of the developments to date whereby professions are no longer considered able to really monitor their own development completely, and the public has some kind of input? I wonder what kind of

input your department has into this College of Nurses in deciding what the rules and regulations are going to be.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well you have caught the problem at the point of change. In other words the previous responsibilities with regard to licensing, when faced with the report of the committee on the healing arts, requires not only the College of Nurses, but as you know I have mentioned and we all know, defining the roles of all of the healing arts within the province is today's business.

Mr. Pitman: In other words the role of the College of Nurses in deciding who can be a nurse in Ontario is going to be taken over by another body.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, not necessarily; but they may be supervised by another body.

Mr. Pitman: And who will this body be?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are reaching for that body and it will apply, of course, to doctors, dentists, and hopefully the pattern that we are searching for is to have as much responsibility discharged at the professional level as possible, and then of course interpose the public, the lay public, by way of a board or tribunal, or other group above them.

Mr. Pitman: Well good! I would like to talk—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The other part is defining their role, of course, and that is very much an issue at the moment.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to talk about this for a few moments because I have run across a number of situations which I think are particularly a disadvantage in terms of the province in relation to the College of Nurses.

I find it very difficult to understand, for example—I am not going into the whole Grace Hospital nurses situation, which I am sure you are aware of, and which has been a problem around here for some years—but it seems to me that it is strange indeed that the College of Nurses should decide on whether a person who has a good deal of experience in

nursing has the right to write the exam or not. I am quite prepared for the conventional people that say whether the person is competent in terms of that examination, but as to whether or not the person has the right to write the examination—I think this is something which no tribunal has the right to cut people off from, especially when they may have been nursing in the province for several years. Just because they went out of nursing four years before the time the rule was made, they are cut off from that particular kind of activity.

I have another letter from another woman, for example, who gets no recognition whatsoever for any training that she took toward being a registered psychiatric nurse. Now we know we need psychiatric nurses in Ontario and yet the College of Nurses decides this.

I understand the minister has one person from his department on the board which makes these kinds of decisions, and I just think it is dead wrong when we are trying to pyramid our society so that you have a great many levels in terms of personnel to take care of health needs, rather than this obsession with doctors and highly trained nurses which has been, I think, the disadvantage we have had in the past.

You have another lady here who cannot write an exam to be a registered nursing assistant because she has not practised in the province for a certain number of years and the waiver does not cover her. It just seems to me to be quite wrong that this body should make these kinds of decisions and apparently there is no tribunal, there is no appeal, beyond them.

Now last fall I ran into the case of someone who is a former registrar of a university. I was just appalled at this. For example, last year they changed the examination system. Whereas previously they had had examinations in August and March they joined a national testing service and they have now got their examinations in August, January and June.

The nurses who wrote the examination in August did not get their results until sometime in early November, but in order to re-write the exams that they had failed in January they had to have the application in on October 23. In other words, they actually got the results of their examinations after they had to have the application in to write the next set of examinations.

As it turned out one would have said, "Well there will not be anybody writing the

January set of examinations." It did not turn out that way. What happened was that apparently the word got around in some kind of a strange way—perhaps by telephone calls or people who knew each other—that about 20 per cent of those who had failed were actually writing the examinations. But people on the boon docks in Peterborough did not find out that they could not get their application in to write the examinations and it was the committee doctors and nurses, and people involved in the hospital operation who were quite upset by this.

As it turned out, by the time these applications got in, particularly one girl found that it was impossible to be able to get her application in, but it was discovered that her paper might be reread and I suspect that if her paper was reread she might have got in. But that really is, Mr. Minister, one hell of a way to run a railway, and it just seems to me—

Hon. R. T. Potter (Minister without Portfolio): I thought we were talking about nurses.

Mr. Pitman: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Potter: How the hell did the railway get in there?

Mr. Pitman: We are talking about the school of nursing and there was a grant for \$20,000 under item one of the—

Hon. Mr. Potter: I just wondered how the railway got in there.

Mr. Pitman: That is a good question. If you do not mind my mixed metaphors, it does not wash very clean.

I just suggest to the minister that if you are in this period of transition where you are indeed providing an opportunity for the public to have some say in areas—I am not suggesting that the qualification for various levels should be lowered—but I do suggest, and I suggest very strongly, that people who have qualifications, who have experience, should not be kept out by these I think silly rules. I mean, what is five years? Why five years? Why not six, why not three? What is that to write an examination—not to have qualifications—to to write an examination to get qualifications? I think that is lunatic, and in a society where the service industry is going to have to provide more and more jobs I think what we should be doing is trying to find ways to get people who have qualifications working in areas of need, rather than allowing a college of nurses to set up all the

little rules and regulations, with no appeal procedure, to determine whether people should be able to act as registered nurses or not. And it seems to me that if we pay \$20,000 of the public money to the College of Nurses, we should have far greater input as to what we want in terms of determining qualifications from that kind of a body.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All I can say to the member's comment is amen. That was the burden that the committee on the healing arts took on, and volume after volume and into its final report, that was the essential challenge that that committee faced the government with and that was the total redefinition, the total rationalization of the responsibilities of these different groups. In 1971—

Mr. Pitman: How soon are we going to get somewhere with this. When is something going to happen?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would think in about a year.

Mr. Pitman: You had the—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the committee has reported. I am working, as minister, with these different groups as they come to me and as they come to the department in each of their specialties, searching for definition, again along the main trend. You know, what was the main theme of that total exercise? It was to say that we must redefine the powers of self-discipline and we must interpose above these self-disciplines, the public input. That was what it said.

Mr. Pitman: Right!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Including the public input at the primary level. Right?

Mr. Pitman: Right, and also I think defining the various levels on the basis of the public interest, not on the basis of the fact that we need nurses. We do not need nurses to do all the things that are going on in hospitals, any more than we need doctors to do all the things that are going on in them.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is the problem, nominally, of course, of the Minister of Health, but a much broader exercise than that of 1971. We have had the report. It was a report that was developed over, what—three to four years?

An hon. member: Four years!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Four years. It was a report which received very little criticism in relation to its main principles. So the challenge, the job, for the Minister of Health in 1971 is to translate the fundamental thrust of that report into legislation, profession by profession, healing art discipline by healing art discipline.

As Minister of Health—and I have been able to see it—there is no way that I can snap my fingers and do that in the next six weeks. My own feeling is that we should start with the medical profession, but then, deliberately, and step by step—

Mr. Pitman: Was it the first stage of that assessment you gave last weekend in terms of the three questions which were asked?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is all part of the whole question, yes, because the input is political, the input is social, the input is expert and the input is research. Yes, it is now and it is timely that all these start to go together.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Minister, is there any way that people can appeal from these bodies? I accept your comment that it is going to take some time to get this all set out, but in the meantime—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not much time.

Mr. Pitman: In the meantime, people are being unjustly treated and this is wrong.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, there are archaic ways, I expect. I used to be a lawyer so—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but I do expect that there are probably some peripheral ways in which the law itself could be used. Insofar as the department is concerned of course—pardon, doctor?

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): Plenty of experience in archaism in the legal profession.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As far as the department goes—I mean, knowing where we are going, being hung up on these anachronistic practices is no job for us.

But the exercise is not one that is going to be a long-term thing. The same text that is read to the medical profession is read in relation to the nurses, and to the dentists, and we go through the whole of the healing arts.

My own feeling is, at the moment, that we tackle medicine first and set the pattern through the positions that will relate to all of the healing arts insofar as the structuring of their special responsibilities relate to the overall public concern as to how they operate.

So I accept your complaint, but you have caught them in the year between. You have caught them in the year between the report of the healing arts and the year in which we can crystallize that into legislation.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if I could ask another question which comes out of that? One of the things that seems to have emerged from this same study is the idea that nursing education should take place, seemingly outside of the hospital setting. This seems to be something essentially being operated between the Minister of University Affairs (Mr. White) and the Minister of Education (Mr. Welch). I am wondering to what extent you, as Minister of Health, and particularly those who are assisting you and providing you with advice, are convinced that this is the best way of carrying out nursing education.

One of the things that I felt—and when it comes to it, my own education philosophy is that one of the best areas of practical application of educational principles takes place in the nursing school in the hospital, where you have nurses actually taking part in the community of healing arts within that setting rather than isolating them in the university.

I noticed in tonight's paper that the graduates of the school of nursing at the university are not going to be able to get jobs anyway. They are going to have to act as ordinary nurses. They will not even get paid for their degrees.

Has the minister made up his own mind on this matter as to whether nursing education should be in the nursing schools associated with hospitals—with certainly some degree of interchange with other academic institutions in the community—or is he convinced that the community college is the best place in which nursing education should take place?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well the recommendation was that from the point of view of academic education, the responsibility should be borne and discharged by the academicians—by The Department of Education, by The Department of University Affairs.

Mr. Pitman: Do you think that is the best way it should be done?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Academically.

Mr. Pitman: You think there should be academic subjects and the academic setting, but does that mean you have to destroy or to dismantle university schools?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Pitman: Will these nursing schools continue?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh I cannot say that, because as I recall the thrust of the recommendations was that the primary educational role would be left in the field of education. We also know that the practical role has to be filled and it can only be filled by in-hospital or in-milieu training.

Mr. Pitman: That means you do not have that long-term preparation within the hospital setting which you now have for nurses and which I think most people would consider pretty important. What is happening in other areas of education is that people are trying to attain that degree of practicality in education which you have achieved in a school of nursing. Instead of isolating, containing and separating nursing education from the actual activity of nursing, they should be meshed. What you are doing is giving over, I think, to a view of education which is probably now going out.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would think you would be the first to argue that certain basics of education should be general.

Mr. Pitman: I do, but it does not mean that you have to dismantle the nursing schools to do that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think we have to dismantle them. We just have to shift their orientation of hours at work and programmes and it becomes practical, does it not? I think, Dr. Charron, I may get beyond my depth here.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, I think what is happening is that we are recognizing that we have a nursing educational system in being. We have also accepted the fact that the academic training can probably best be carried out by the educators in the educational system. But having this arrangement in being and recognizing that the clinical resources and the clinical training is most important, you have to establish a functional relationship between the academic training and the clinical training required by all nurses.

Mr. Pitman: Right.

Dr. Charron: So what will be happening in this transitional period is that the system that as presently developed will continue to exist, but we will establish a closer functional relationship with the colleges of applied arts and technology as far as RN training is concerned at the diploma level—

Mr. Pitman: How close will it be?

Dr. Charron: —and this will be in three ways. In certain circumstances, depending on the location, it may be practical for teachers from the college to go to the regional school of nursing or the hospital school of nursing and give the academic courses. In other circumstances, because of the close relationship, the students might go to the college. In the third circumstance the course would be set up in the college, but the clinical arrangements would be arranged through The Department of Health.

Mr. Pitman: Will there be a degree of flexibility, with each college and nursing school able to work out some form of those alternatives?

Dr. Charron: This is being worked out through what is being called the senior coordinating committee with representatives from The Department of Education, The Department of University Affairs, the chairman of the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, and The Department of Health. Each one of these projects or proposals is reviewed within that framework and it is tailor-made to the particular setting in which it is going to be developed.

Mr. Pitman: Dr. Charron, you have no idea how much you have relieved my fear. I asked the Minister of University Affairs and I got the impression that he and his sister were deciding on what was going to happen to nursing education across Ontario, because he talked to her every weekend, and that was the only information I could get from him as to what was going to happen to the nursing schools in Ontario. So I am very relieved to hear that, because I think you need that.

I would like to ask one more question in relation to this change that is taking place with the healing arts, Mr. Minister. I read an article of something that was done by a health planner called Robert Sigmand, who is director of a leading health planning council. Apparently he did a study and he put before dozens and dozens of practising physicians the follow question. I would like to read

it; I will try the patience of the Chairman for just a moment.

Suppose this country faced a national emergency like a long world war and required your region to contribute as many physicians, nurses and other health workers as possible. Suppose, further, that you were placed in charge of the health services in your region and were assured of the complete trust and co-operation of everyone. Would you be able to contribute any of the region's physicians, surgeons, nurses and other health workers for national emergency service, without impairing the qualitative health service provided in your region?

Out of this study he discovered that the answers were "yes." It is quite possible, in spite of all that we hear about the lack of doctors, the lack of nurses, the lack of health workers; it went from 20 to 40 per cent.

That is, there were some areas where they said they could actually lose 40 per cent and they could still carry on without any loss in quality in health services. He went on to point out the various ways that they suggested they could do it—by grouping physicians; by locating more physicians' offices in hospitals; by redefining many health service patterns; by permitting nurses to make house calls. This involves nursing again—creating closer linkages with hospitals to permit grouping for maternity, open heart surgery, specializing hospitals and so on.

He asked the question, this was the final question that he asked.

Suppose the great national crisis was not a long world war, but the spiralling cost of medical and hospital services and the many unmet health needs right in your own region; the deaths and suffering that could be avoided by expanded and improved health service, could you deliver?

Robert Sigmand's final comments in this study were:

I wish that I did not have to report that most of the group doubted that it would be possible, under present circumstances, to achieve the degree of commitment and co-operation that would produce results. At least as a number said, not in my lifetime.

Now it seems to me that study has some very real relevance to what we are trying to do here in Ontario. It seems to me that you are right at the turning point, you are right at the crisis point, and it would seem to me

that some thinking along those lines as to how we can really make for more efficiency and more effectiveness with more quality in the health services in relation to the needs of the community, should be well taken.

In other words, it seems to me what you have right now is the razor's edge in terms of health services for perhaps the next quarter century. I would hope that some of that kind of thinking that took place in Mr. Sigmand's remark, might come forward in the kind of thinking that is done by your department.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think you can have a better definition of the role of the Minister of Health in 1971-1972 and 1973; it is exactly that role. The reports are in, the committees, the commissions; three different investigatory functions are pouring in. The readjustment of our total health system to Medicare and universal state-supported medicine and hospitalization has culminated; we are faced with the historic development of dozens of institutional health service functions in this province.

I would say categorically that my happy role as minister in 1971 is exactly what you define. You sit there and you see a system that is working, working very well when compared to other jurisdictions, or when compared to what—but the comparisons are not significant. This is the role of The Department of Health at this moment. It is to rationalize our system, to pick up our total system; it may have developed over on my right hand from a religious group 200 years ago. It may have developed as a governmental experiment six months ago.

Suddenly, partially from the impact of total universal and state-supported care, we start to pull the thing together, which is what you are talking about. So that whether it be an emergency in a neighbourhood or in a community, or whether it be a wartime emergency, the thing is rational. Instead of reorganizing it you just turn up the degree or input.

As far as I am concerned all you have done is really state the challenge given to this department and I know, from talking for two months with the people in the department, the eagerness with which they accept the new challenge which is now to be able to sit back and start pulling the system into a rational and functional form.

Mr. Pitman: What strategy do you have for dealing with all the various people involved because there is where you are going to hit the crunch? The flak is going to start to

fly and it is going to take a great deal of courage not to buckle because there is going to be a tremendous amount of pressure and a good deal of flak, I can assure you. What strategy do you have to get out to the community to convince doctors, nurses, that they are no longer in the marketplace? That that game is over and a very different game is on?

You have medical schools right across the road here still telling young people in that school that their job is essentially a marketplace job of going out and getting fees for service, and that the real game is still the same as it was in the 19th century. You have a real education job on your hands. It is going to take an awful lot of time, and I am just wondering what your strategy is for doing that. You have got a revolution on your hands.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Some of my friends say they can recognize it within the last two months.

Mr. Pitman: They what?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Some of my friends say they can recognize it within the last two months. The strategy must be to look at the giant, the medical profession; to say "no" to the denturists; "yes or no" to the dental technicians.

I would say to the hon. member the history of the last four, five or six weeks has been a commitment to exactly the same problem. I think it requires—it does not require the making of mistakes; they will probably be included—but it does require exactly what you mean. That is, as Minister of Health, meet all the professions essentially on the new terms. I had hoped that there might be some evidence that this was the challenge this department was facing.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I would just like to follow along a few things that my colleague has said. Your predecessor gave a release on January 25, about the guiding principles that were going to govern the department as they moved into redefining the role to the various health personnel and the kind of regulatory bodies that perhaps would be set up.

One of the things that was mentioned was that the public interest should be the basic principle underlying the regulation of the health discipline. Now if this report were to be sort of a working paper and the pattern that you are going to follow, you leave cer-

tain bodies in their present colleges, such as the doctors and the dentists and the optometrists and the pharmacists and the nurses. The other bodies you make responsible to a health discipline regulation board.

I think one of the things that has been a concern to a great many people, as my colleague has said, is that these bodies in the past have been made up of people in the particular disciplines. Sometimes they either pushed the goals of the particular disciplines or, if there have been complaints, they have tried to smoothe them out. How are you going to make the particular colleges responsive to the public interest, so that the public interest is going to be guaranteed?

Is it your general thinking that they will accept direction from this health discipline regulation board, or that the lay people can be put on these particular colleges with some degree of muscle? Are they going to be on there in such a way that they will be out-voted? What kind of changes are you proposing to make that will guarantee the public interest is going to be protected, and that we are not just going to have these particular disciplines with as much strength and as much of a monopoly as they have at the present time?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Without getting into philosophy or without going over the guiding principles or the report itself, I did suggest earlier that we will start, I hope, with the medical profession. And the pattern we set there, depending on the maturity, responsibility and significance of all the healing arts, I would expect we would follow the same pattern. It is very simple; it is as simple as can be.

The people who know the particular professional, or mechanical even, intricacies of their own art should obviously be the first critics of that art; and then above that you implant the public interest. I see no reason why a board—the board we will develop, which will be a lay board or tribunal or whatever, will be sufficiently comprised of people with expertise and wisdom to oversee the whole. In other words to see our health services as a unity; see the question of training dental technicians within the same sphere as they are seeing the responsibilities of doctors within the hospital media.

Mr. Ferrier: You will start with the doctors, that is the first thing now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That struck me as a reasonable thing to do. We could start—

Mr. Ferrier: Just as a talking point, your colleague, the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Potter), was up in the north a couple of weeks ago investigating the kinds of nurses who would probably fulfil a role in certain of the outlying isolated areas.

I know you have pilot projects under way; there is one up at Sioux Lookout, and I believe Queen's in Kingston and McMaster have these. Are you going to wait till these pilot projects are finished before you rewrite the roles and duties of the particular personnel and, say, the paramedical people in nursing, perhaps giving them expanded roles or expanded training in certain instances—perhaps the role of a midwife and this kind of thing such as is being done in Sioux Lookout at the federal level.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, we are not going to wait.

Mr. Ferrier: You will move into rewriting the regulations governing these people and give them specific roles in this process that you are undertaking to redefine the whole medical spectrum?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The whole thing is on my desk.

Mr. Ferrier: And what about, say, the dental auxiliary?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The same thing. We are launched on the task of defining the role of all health disciplines. We cannot do it all at once. We are doing it in relation to three or four or five insofar as actual drafts are concerned—you know, pieces of paper with words on them—at this very moment.

Mr. Ferrier: But you foresee it will be approximately a year's time before you are able to bring legislation into the House to begin this task or could it be as early as this fall?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes it could be. I do not know. It seems to me to be sort of basic and logical that the rewriting of the laws in relation to the medical profession setting a pattern might be a first step. But it is not a priority, because we have to rewrite them by definition in relation to everyone involved.

Mr. Ferrier: Well there is a very good principle in this report that came out. You tried to establish almost a nation-wide licensing procedure for the various types of people

in health disciplines; that once a person was a nurse in Alberta, I suppose, she should be one in Ontario or this kind of thing. I think that is a very worthy goal.

Is the department actually pursuing this with the other provinces to try to get national standards so that the health people can move freely from province to province, without having to go through cumbersome licensing procedures or writing further exams or this kind of thing?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Recognizing of course that the main responsibility of the government of Ontario is to the Province of Ontario, yes, we are interested. In June, I am hopeful that we will have a gathering of all the health ministers of all the provinces of Canada. I have invited them and we are working on dates to deal with this kind of thing. Yes, of course, we in the province cannot wait for uniformity when basically everyone who speaks here is pointing toward the same direction or way in which we must move.

Mr. Ferrier: But you are prepared to give leadership in this?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, well—

Mr. Ferrier: This is what I gather the whole document says, that you are going to sort of take the lead.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have done more work on it, I think, than anyone else.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, I commend you for this because it is a good principle and we are behind you 100 per cent on this score.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, we will not get the co-operation of the other provinces, of course, if we say these are the tables of law from Mount Sinai. I think the two things must go along in parallel. That is why I am trying to put together a meeting next month of all the ministers of all the provinces, with federal representation invited to discuss uniformity—to see that in a country of our size how far we can go in keeping step. On the other hand, one could wait indefinitely, I suppose, for total unanimity in Canada. And we cannot wait for that, when the province does have the research done, the opinions in, and the expertise developed.

Mr. Ferrier: There is one other item that goes along with this. I believe either the committee on the healing arts or the Ontario

Health Council made reference to a health commissioner or an ombudsman. Is there any thought of establishing such a person in the health field, in the legislation that you are going to be bringing forward?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well the thought is there but as I suggested I am not so sure whether a broadly based tribunal reflecting quite a spectrum of the lay input or the public input, might not serve as well as an individual wise man. The problem of the concept of an ombudsman, that very wise man, is there are not that many wise men we can pull off the shelf.

I can see the de facto ombudsman sitting here at the table, but I have not asked to appoint him nor has he volunteered for the job, so I am not so sure that an ombudsman is the answer. I think that a much more broadly based review group is what we need.

Mr. Ferrier: As long as there is somebody who can move in and review a decision or a particular thing. You do not always have to go to a formal hearing. Some of these things probably can be cleared up without going to this stage, and this is where probably an ombudsman would have the advantage over just a formal tribunal.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well there are disadvantages too in an ombudsman. Where are you going to find such a wise man?

Mr. Ferrier: You have just suggested one.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I did not suggest him. I just said there was a candidate.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): It is nice to hear from the minister that a complete review of the health services field is under way and it is nice that he has started at the top and will eventually work his way down, so that the whole field will be sort of brought into the 20th century instead of operating, as it had, in a sort of a dictatorial system where an individual who may have qualifications in one jurisdiction, especially in the British Empire, or is, say, recognized by the College of Physicians and Surgeons in England, is not allowed to practice in the Province of Ontario. I hope that in the minister's complete studies these types of problems will be eliminated.

I know this is essentially a vote on the nurses and we should not be talking about doctors at this stage; we will talk about them later. I can make mention of several doctors

in my own community and I will later on. Since the elimination or the phasing out of the three-year programme for nurses and the going into the two-year programme, you are confronted today with the graduation of nurses from two systems and, as a result you have a substantial surplus.

What plans does the department and the minister have to take care of the surplus, to find suitable employment so that our nurses will not immediately look to what they think are greener fields and leave for the United States and for Honolulu? I know in my own community nurses have no problem at all going to Detroit and getting as much as \$10,000 a year. It is not too many years ago where I doubt that some of them even earned \$5,000. What plans do you have for the present graduates of the various nursing schools, seeing that there will be a substantial surplus?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron?

Dr. Charron: With regard to the RN level of nursing—and I think this is the one that is chiefly affected—some years ago we established an objective in this province to have a capability of graduating 5,000 nurses a year. We reached this objective about 18 months ago. The situation was reviewed and I think that the member for Windsor-Walkerville is correct with regard to certain locations in the province where there appear to be more nurses than can get jobs at the present time.

In order to correct this situation we have kept down the expansion of the schools so that we will, in fact, for the next few years only be graduating this number and we feel that this will correct the situation over a reasonable period of time. I think that in many circumstances if the nurses were prepared to leave the metropolitan areas they probably could get jobs, that it is a matter of too many nurses in certain locations. Of course, then added to this is that Ontario is an attractive field and we have been attracting a substantial number of nurses from other parts of Canada and from outside the country as well.

As far as our educational programme is concerned, we have slowed it down so that we think that we will correct the internal output as far as the nursing profession is concerned. It is not something that can be corrected in a short period of time, as I am sure you will appreciate.

Mr. B. Newman: I notice in my own community there were 600 applications to Wind-

sor hospitals for about 125 jobs. That certainly does indicate, as I have mentioned earlier, that there was a substantial surplus. As the deputy minister made mention now, that is not a general condition then? Could not some of the nurses who are surplus today be sent by some type of incentive into remoter areas of the province so that these areas could have the availability of their services? Is the department considering some type of an incentive programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have not addressed my mind to it.

Mr. B. Newman: Would the minister consider that, if he finds that there is a substantial surplus in the metro areas and we find difficulty in getting them to go into the remoter areas?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, and it would not be inconsistent with our pattern of policy in relation to dentists or doctors.

Mr. B. Newman: Then you would follow sort of the same type of scheme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is a precedent for it certainly.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, right. Now may I ask of the minister, too, as he made mention that the community colleges were going to get into the health science field, is that going to be every community college or are these going to be selected community colleges?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I think as my deputy minister mentioned earlier, this is being dealt with on a very practical basis—thing like geography, transportation, location. There is nothing arbitrary in it at all; is is very practical. Where they can serve they will serve and in or out will depend on the situation.

Mr. B. Newman: Then you more than likely intend to use St. Clair College in the city of Windsor for a health services—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, St. Clair College, for the health sciences field to—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it is an expert judgement. Perhaps—

Mr. B. Newman: I understood that there is discussion going on at the present moment between the authorities at St. Clair College and either The Department of Education or The Department of Health to establish a sort

of school in health studies at St. Clair College in the city of Windsor. Could you confirm that at all?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot, but can you, Dr. Charron?

Dr. Charron: I cannot confirm the specific circumstance, but with regard to the colleges of applied arts and their participation in health sciences education, a report was prepared and with the concurrence of all the departments involved has been sent out to the colleges as guiding principles in the development of any health sciences courses. The primary development, as far as colleges are concerned, will be those colleges that are functionally associated with health sciences centres. As these health sciences centres broaden in their concept, it will take in more colleges. Quite a number of the colleges submitted projects to The Department of Education. They are being reviewed at the present time consistent with the guidelines that have been proposed. It is quite possible, Mr. Newman, that St. Clair College could have been one of the colleges that submitted a proposal with regard to health sciences centres.

Mr. B. Newman: In the result of such a programme being eventually established in any given community, then is it the intention of the department to phase out nursing schools in conjunction with hospitals?

Dr. Charron: It depends on the type of arrangement that you have in your community. I think I mentioned that there would be three different circumstances that might be established as of this period of time, and I could not tell you just what would develop as far as Windsor area is concerned.

Mr. B. Newman: What will be the criterion that will be used to decide?

Dr. Charron: I think the criterion that will be used to decide would really be the stage of development of that nursing school. Is it a new and modern nursing school? Has it been developed to serve a region and, if it has, is it a relatively new development? If it is fairly close to St. Clair College, then the type of arrangement that would be established would in all probability be that either the students would go to St. Clair College for the academic training or the teachers from St. Clair College could go to the school of nursing for this purpose. At the same time, in that region we would establish the clinical

resources that would be used for those nurses independent of where they might be located.

Mr. B. Newman: So you would end up eventually with a sort of on-the-job training with the formal academic education being conducted at the college of applied arts and technology and the training itself, the practical work, actually, at the hospitals.

Dr. Charron: At the hospitals.

Mr. B. Newman: I think it is a worthy project all right, Mr. Chairman. May I ask of the minister if there is any consideration being given to increasing nursing services, or nurses services, at schools, because it seems to be in a stage of phasing out today because of budget restrictions? Nurses will be in a technical school for maybe two mornings a week, whereas you could have any type of serious emergency in there and you have to rush to a hospital to treat the individual. I know, having worked in a school where you have a nurse on a full-time basis, it was a real asset if only from the mental frame of mind. You were at ease. You knew that if the worst ever happened, there was someone of competence to take care of the emergency.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will deal with that under public health.

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): To begin with, I want to take this opportunity to apologize to the member for Ontario, if he would just pay attention for a second.

I am amazed that we do have such a surplus of nurses because in the past I have criticized the gentleman when he was Minister of Health, saying that the programme which he had initiated, which was supposed to produce 5,000 nurses by a given date, was nothing but a pie-in-the-sky dream on the part of the hon. gentleman. It appears now that he turned out right, and when I am wrong I believe in apologizing and I want to take this opportunity to tell him that I do so.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How often are we going to clap?

Mr. Ben: The fact that we have a surplus of nurses does not mean that we necessarily have to phase out the nurse-training facilities. I think we should, to begin with, start using nurses in the role for which they were trained. Phyllis Jones, who is an associate

professor at the university school of nursing, recently told a group of nurses at the Wellesley Hospital that nurses were not being used for the role for which they were prepared; that the way that nursing services were set up prevented them from exercising their role, for which they were trained. They are not being utilized in the degree that they could be.

I think that I gave an example of underutilization when I spoke earlier, at the beginning of these estimates, when I pointed out that in Toronto General Hospital, for example, one nurse specialized, or was licensed, or insured, to take blood samples. Others of them were not permitted to do so. Or a lot of the nurses were making beds for patients who were not ambulatory, even though some of them could have stepped out of the bed—they were completely able to step out of the bed—and let one of the nursing aids or even one of the staff, cleaning or service staff make the bed.

I remember another hauling some intravenous fluid. At the time she had three bottles in her hand and was also pulling a great big stand on which those intravenous bottles hang to give to the patient, and I said: "Good grief, why do you not take them one at a time? You will break your neck and the bottles, too."

She said: "Oh, yes, and walk another mile and a half?" I said: "What do you mean, a mile and a half?" She said: "To where I have to take these bottles I have to walk a mile and a half there and back." I said: "You are kidding. How could that be in a hospital?" "Well, I have to go down the hall, down the elevator, through a tunnel, up into the other building, up the elevator again, walk back over to the other wing and walk back down again and the distance there is three-quarters of a mile, and it would be a mile and a half there and back."

I did not believe it but this was what the girl said. So there was a registered nurse doing such a menial task. To me it seemed at least a waste of talent.

So we have many nurses who are doing this, and it is not surprising that sometimes they feel they should join women's lib and be recognized for being competent to do more than pick up swabs, count towels and sponges and the utensils, and are not even able to take a blood sample or give an injection.

Then, on the other hand, getting back to this—I am beginning to suspect that some of the professional men around here must think

I have a fixation on this particular craft. Maybe we should coin our own word here so that I do not have to use the word *feldsher*. Maybe we ought to call them doctor's assistants. The College of Family Physicians themselves advocated upgrading nurses so that they could act as doctors' assistants and take a lot of the load off doctors. For example, everyone knows that in most instances all that is required for a patient is to clean a wound and put on a butterfly bandage, or something of that sort, and the nurse could very well do it.

As a matter of fact, in some instances the nurse could do it better. I recall having taken my youngster to the emergency ward of one of the west-end hospitals. He had gashed his foot in the summer vacation and a doctor up at Port Carling had sutured it. The suture came apart and I took him down on a Sunday and an intern looked at the wound and said that he did not have to re-suture it, but what would be required was a butterfly bandage on it to pull the wound together. So he said the nurse would look after it.

We went to see the nurse and the nurse said: "Okay, fine you can go." I said: "What do you mean, we can go?" She said: "Well, you can go". "But the doctor said you were supposed to put a bandage on it". She said: "No, there is nothing here about that. The leg is perfect". I said: "What are you talking about? I was there." So we had an argument.

Finally, I grabbed the report that the doctor made out—she did not want to give it to me but I grabbed it—and the boy's wound was just below the left knee. The doctor who had come in here from another jurisdiction—I will not mention which jurisdiction, which is why I was not all too pleased to let anybody have a licence to practise—had described the wound as being on the right foot.

The end result, Mr. Minister, was that the nurse recognized the error, and she did what had to be done. The nurse, in essence, carried out what the doctor should have done, or else she could have acted without the intervention of a doctor, and there are many other instances such as this.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Could I interrupt by suggesting all our observations run along the same lines?

Mr. Ben: Well, why do you not do something about it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If you are sick, or in the hospital milieu, you are neither a

Liberal, nor a Conservative nor an NDP-er. You are seeing the system run. The challenge though, of course, is the old biblical one: "In the beginning there was the word". If you would sit down and start defining things and help me in the field of definition—you know, in the beginning is the word—we have to express this in law, and regulations.

Mr. Ben: Are you afraid to buck the College of Physicians and Surgeons?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Look, the sovereign Legislature can buck anyone in this province.

Mr. Ben: But it still has to come through you!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And you!

Mr. Ben: Oh we will support you, but you must initiate it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Quite, quite! But remember, the key is not to see the anachronisms and inconsistencies of the thing; the key finally is to bring us to the word; and you as a lawyer understand that better than most. Let us get down to the definitions and talk about your—I keep calling him fleischer instead of—what is it?

Mr. Ben: Feldsher.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Feldsher, that is right; flesher is a butcher, that is right. Instead of dealing with these things in an amorphous—

Mr. Ben: You are not using that to describe doctors, are you?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. What we are dealing with is words, and I do not think there is that amount of incompatibility in your observations of the kinks and problems in our system, or mine, or anyone else's. But where the vacuum is at this moment is exactly where the health disciplines, or the committee on the health arts, left it—definition.

Mr. Ben: Tell me, Mr. Minister, would you say that you have ever rejected a sound idea that was advanced to you?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If I did, I would not admit it.

Mr. Ben: Do you think that your predecessor would?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No one in this government has ever rejected a sound idea.

Mr. Ben: Fine. And yet the same ideas which we are advancing now and to which you say we are at idem, were advanced years and years ago. At that time, the incumbent would say: "It is a good idea, but, but, but"—we either have a committee of the healing arts sitting—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: When you are finished all that.

Mr. Ben: —or we got this or we got that—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That exercise is over and you were not in the room when this was raised.

Mr. Ben: It would seem that we have to goad you, goad you, goad you—and even then, we do not succeed.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is getting a little beyond my estimates, but I really do suggest, without quarrelling with the innumerable examples that I think all of us who are sensitive to the problem can find, really after the work has been done, after all the commissions and committees reported, finally we are back to the word. Let us get down to definition. Let us get down to the top job of deciding in words, in English, the roles these people play.

For instance, last week—

Mr. Ben: When you say "we", what do you want us to do?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, no, I am just suggesting. If you want to challenge me with definitions, and I hope you will, tomorrow, the day after, outside this committee itself, please do. Because the shocking thing I have found is that after all the words have been said, even among those who know the most, we are not getting into definitions.

I mentioned—I do not know whether you were in the room—the question of the paramedical—what does that mean? And the difference between—

Mr. Ben: Yah! Input and thrust and all that stuff is driving me up a wall!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All that stuff—okay—we will get down to the—I am searching for—you know, just as you would if you were a lawyer in this portfolio. Yes, but is there not a difference between a medical delegate and a medical assistant? I do not know if you were in the room when I was discussing this yesterday.

I find that when I am dealing with people who are very involved in the field, that some of them are not quite at grips with whether the nurse you are talking about—the generalist nurse, of the most highly developed expertise in the intensive care unit in Toronto—what is she? A doctor's delegate or a doctor's assistant? She may be neither, she may be the generalist in the whole field with a whole bunch of doctors essentially working for her.

Mr. Ben: Why are you playing with words, Mr. Minister? Why are you playing with words?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not. It is because words are the means with which we have got to express this.

Mr. Ben: Then if there is a confusion in the use of the words—yesterday we discussed dental mechanics, then denticians, and we came to the conclusion that in essence they were one and the same breed, except that denticians have organized themselves into a group.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Tell me in words what your Russian second-level doctor is defined as being responsible for discharging? What responsibilities does he have?

Mr. Ben: I could read them off to you from last year's debate. Almost everything, I guess, except performing major surgery.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Now we are getting down into the—

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): Mr. Chairman, I have to take exception.

I saw the feldsher at first-hand in Russia and he is a glorified first-aid man. He is a very useful help in the hinterland of Russia and this, the Russian people themselves told me, was where he belonged and where they felt he could perform best because they could not get trained physicians to go to the hinterland even in Russia.

And it is rather remarkable, Mr. Chairman, that even in Russia, where the feldsher was developed, if he wants to become a doctor he starts right at the very beginning again. His training as a feldsher counts for nothing. He goes right back to school to upgrade his secondary school education and from there on goes to the medical school which is not part of the university in Russia.

Mr. Ben: I beg to differ. I am not going to differ with the doctor; I am just going to say that the description he gave of the feldsher is

inconsistent with the description that was given in the reports that the delegation from the United States who went to Russia to report on mental health gave upon its return. When one compares the description of the tasks carried out by this particular group, Dr. Dymond's description would, to say the least, be extremely denigrating. He says he was there and I take his word for it. I was not there.

All I am saying is that his description and the description given by the prominent men I mentioned here last year when the estimates were up differ remarkably, and that is all I can tell you.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 1 of 701 carry?

Mr. Ferrier: I would like to ask a couple of brief questions about that vote yet. Can the minister tell us when the annual report for 1970 might be expected?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Nineteen-seventy?

Mr. Ferrier: The last one I have is 1969 and I wondered if there is going to be a report this year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am advised it is in the galley proof stage.

Mr. Ferrier: It is in the galley proof stage.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What is that? Three or four weeks? How many weeks?

Mr. J. W. F. Bain (Director, Communications Branch): About a month.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: About a month. That is pretty up-to-date for a department of this size, I guess.

Mr. Ferrier: The next question I wanted to ask—I have sort of been in the dark about the vote for the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation. What does that involve?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Broughton, would you answer this? I think the recording system requires you to be near one of those contraptions.

Mr. J. H. Broughton (Cancer Branch): Mr. Chairman, that vote consists mainly of the services provided at the Ontario Cancer Institute, which is the Princess Margaret Hospital, and the clinics of the foundation, the regional cancer treatment centres, which are not covered by the Ontario Hospital Services Commission.

It also covers the cost of operating hostels or lodges where ambulatory cancer patients seeking treatment at the regional centres may stay, who do not need to be hospitalized.

It covers a drug service for cancer patients who are being treated in their homes, rather than in the hostel which is not covered by any other means; it covers a grant to the Women's College Hospital cancer detection centre, various training programmes for cytology technicians and others; various assessment programmes of new possible diagnostic procedures, and a rehabilitation programme for cancer patients who have been disfigured by operations.

We have a cosmetic centre in the Princess Margaret Hospital lodge where prostheses are provided for those patients who have had debilitating operations, and there is also a speech therapy centre in the Princess Margaret Hospital Lodge where patients who have suffered laryngectomies are taught to speak. It also covers the maintaining of a statistical programme for the clinics of the foundation and the Princess Margaret Hospital, and such other cancer statistics as are supplied by the Ontario Hospital Services Commission and from other sources.

That is mainly it, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ferrier: May I just ask one more question? Does this cover the expenses of the doctors who go to some of the outlying areas to do the followup work on people who have had surgery or treatment in Princess Margaret, and then are back in their own communities?

I know that doctors come from Princess Margaret to Timmins and South Porcupine to see this kind of patient. Would that come out of this, or is that another programme?

Mr. Broughton: That would be considered an insured service of the Hospital Services Commission. Their remuneration would be covered by the hospital commission as part of the followup. We consider the followup of patients treated by radiotherapy as part of radiotherapy, which is an insured service.

Mr. Ferrier: I see.

An hon. member: We are running real competition tonight.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 1 of vote 701 carry?

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Wait for just a moment, please—can we tackle the minister's salary?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): I think we should.

Mr. Shulman: Then I would like to have something to say on that subject.

Mr. Chairman, there are two matters which I wish to bring up under this vote because the minister personally was involved in some investigation here. The first one is a matter of five students who were dismissed from the RNA course at the St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital and just to set the background, I have a brief clipping here from the St. Thomas Times Journal which I would like to put on the record and I quote:

Speaking of wasting the taxpayers' money, here is another good example. Last week at the St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital, five students who were taking the RNA course were dismissed from their jobs with just two weeks of lectures out of a nine-month course left to complete.

All these students obtained passing or better grades in both theory and actual practise and were dismissed for the reason their work was deemed unsatisfactory. Incidentally, it cost the taxpayers \$8,000 per student for this course. This amounts to a waste of \$40,000.

Surely, if these students were considered unsatisfactory, they could have been told earlier in the course or not admitted at all. Not only are they adding to the growing unemployment problem, but they are wasting the students' time and efforts and showing flagrant disregard for the already overburdened taxpayers.

So I wrote the minister and asked him, Mr. Chairman, to investigate this matter. He wrote me back on April 27 and said that it was apparent that the students were not functioning effectively, either in the theoretical or clinical areas, and consequently would not meet the standards of nursing care required.

I would like to ask the minister how he came to that conclusion, since all of the students had passed both their theory and actual practice examinations.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I came to that conclusion on the advice I had received. Now let us find out where that advice came from. My deputy advises that my mental health people, who are not here in the general vote, are the ones to answer the question. Do you want to leave the question for answering when they come?

Mr. Shulman: All right. I have another matter which you also had occasion to investigate.

Last year during the estimates, I brought up the matter of conflict of interest—or the member for Cochrane South brought up the matter of a conflict of interest—at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. You were kind enough to reply to me, but unfortunately your letter does not say anything.

There were a number of specific problems raised, you will recall—the matter of the oil contract; the matter of the insurance. All of these were given out to members of the board of directors. Your letter here perhaps should go in the record. I will read it; it is very brief. It is dated April 22, 1971:

Dear Dr. Shulman:

During discussion which occurred in the standing committee of supply in October of last year, the Rev. William Ferrier, MPP, raised certain allegations made by Mr. B. C. Samme about the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, originally contained in a letter to yourself. Since that time, the Ontario Hospital Services Commission has been investigating these allegations in conjunction with representatives of the hospital.

Although there is no evidence of illegal activity or wrong-doing on the part of the hospital administration of staff, we have advised that in future, arrangements that put the hospital in a bad light should be avoided. In essence, the chairman and the members of the board of governors of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital have been reminded of their responsibilities under the charter and bylaws and The Public Hospitals Act of the province to make sure that matters of this kind are handled in the future in an absolutely correct manner.

I trust these comments will provide suitable answer to the questions you originally raised.

Yours sincerely,
BERT LAWRENCE

Unfortunately they do not, because there were a number of specific questions asked. I am aware that you have investigated all these matters particularly and I would like really—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well the report in essence—as I read it—is that there is no finding of wrong-doing. But they go through a dozen or more different circumstances in which particular people have placed themselves in positions where it is seen that they

have done right, but it is not seen that they have been scrupulous in avoiding any implication. So as I mentioned in—

Mr. Singer: Did you read the minutes?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I doubt it. I doubt it and—

Mr. Singer: Did you examine them?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not the minutes of the board, but it is not isolated.

Mr. Shulman: That is what I am coming to; but first of all let us get to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and then we will come to the more general—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well I can recall the report and it is in some detail. I have no problem in furnishing it to you, but it still ends up with a study that shows no wrong-doing, certainly in the legal sense, but it is a poor practice. Look, we have seen it in hospitals, universities, a lot of other institutions—this peripheral connection that exists from the old days of autonomy of institutions which often related board members to services provided to these institutions, whether it be insurance, oil—you name it.

Mr. Shulman: Well let us name one of the specific allegations and I quote from Hansard of last year, page S-1618.

I will start with this one and I will go through them one at a time and I quote:

“Mr. Robshaw, the purchasing agent . . . made a mistake in sending for the first time” for tenders “from the four oil companies, including Shell, Esso and others . . .

“I did not see the quotations sent by the above-mentioned companies. However, as soon as Mr. Shonner started, he had to contact Taylor and ask for another tender as his was the highest. The second written tender arrived and was dated back. The original was destroyed. Read and Shonner fixed the contract.”

Now, is that true?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Having read the report—and it is available and I can make it available—we come up with the same answer as I mentioned earlier, that the most we get is suspicion. The basics we can agree on, as it is a very poor way of relating services for an institution to the responsibilities of those on the board, but nowhere was there evidence that there was a criminality or illegality involved.

Mr. Shulman: Well I am suggesting to you, Mr. Minister, that if the allegations that were made last year are true, there is illegality involved and I suggest to you that all of these allegations were proved to be true.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They were not proved to be untrue. What we are dealing with is do we throw the man in jail, or are we going to say that it is a bad way of conducting your affairs, or are we going to say this is, generally speaking, from an institutional point of view, something that should be avoided?

Mr. Shulman: Or should we say that man is not fit to sit on that board?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well you know, times are changing. Some of the most vigorous people that developed institutions in this province, whether they be hospital institutions or educational institutions, are connected with the same kind of financial arrangements that you—quite properly and I am not quarrelling with it—are criticizing today. You know, the insurance member of a board was the man who sold the board insurance. The big businessman who had the old contract—I am talking 20 years ago when I was on boards of hospitals and universities—he sold them oil.

The point is, in 1971—and here I agree with you 100 per cent—in 1971 this is simply no longer acceptable. The cleanliness that you are asking for is something that the department has asked for and, as I recall it, memoranda on this point have gone out.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, surely there is something more important than memoranda. The minister has been here as long as I have pretty well and he must recall the time when he was Minister of Municipal Affairs, when he thought that there was nothing wrong with a member of council selling shovels—I think shovel was an example he used—to his council because after all he was a good public servant. And we battered away at great length about apparent conflict of interest, even though there was no legal conflict of interest.

Then our big breakthrough—I do not think we have ever really broken through in the municipal affairs field and written proper conflict of interest sections—our big breakthrough was in the amendments to the corporate law, when the present Attorney General (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) headed the select committee. That committee came down in no uncertain tones. It was reflected again

in your legislation spelling out what conflict of interest is, and quite apart from the law and the mores, surely it must be obvious.

That is why I threw the question to the minister a few moments ago about what the minutes disclose—do they disclose a declaration of interest. A public declaration of interest is recorded in the refraining of that particular individual from voting.

Now the minister—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do not be so artificial.

Mr. Singer: The minister shakes his head, all right, I know him well enough to recognize that he agrees. Now where is your legislation? Even though there may be no technical or factual breach of the law at this point the thing smells. Now when are you going to give us legislation to stop it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think we need legislation. I think we have the power to control this ourselves, and I think—

Mr. Singer: Why do you not put it in legislation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What words?

Mr. Ben: Here we go—

Mr. Singer: Very simply, that any member of a board of governors of a hospital cannot enter into any contract, either directly or indirectly or as a shareholder of a limited company. What more do you need than that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We can do that, sure. But that still does not cure—

Mr. Singer: You are not going to get what has gone on before, but you will get what might go on in the future.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The points made by the member for High Park are more general and deeper. I bet the majority of your allegations would not stumble over a strict interpretation of the member for Downsview's words.

Mr. Shulman: Oh yes they would, if you go through them point by point. But what bothers me—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us make it the law then, because there is no question that we can do that by regulations.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, the thing that bothers me is, someone brought me the material about this particular hospital, but

how do we know what is going on in 50 other hospitals across the province?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All right, let us make it a general regulation. I have no problem with this at all, because no one today accepts any conflict of interest in relation to publicly-supported institutions.

Mr. Shulman: You cannot. You are going to bring in regulations?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think it is a very good idea. Can you see anything to stop us?

Mr. Ben: I was thinking about—

Mr. Singer: Marks for that!

Mr. Chairman: Shall item I of vote 701 carry? Carried.

Mr. Ben: It carried only because we were stunned by the minister.

Mr. Chairman: All right. Item 2; any discussion? Communication services.

Mr. Ben: Local health services is it not, sir? Am I on the right vote, public health—

Mr. Chairman: Item 2, 701, carried?

Item 3, legal service. Carried.

Item 4, personnel services.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman is this the point to find out how many people are employed in this department? Will we get this under this vote?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will ask the director of personnel to deal with that. Or perhaps Dr. Charron could answer your question directly.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Chairman, I have the information here including the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, the total number employed in the department is 21,466.

Mr. Ferrier: How many are employed in the HIRB aspect of it?

Dr. Charron: Sixteen hundred and fourteen.

Mr. Ferrier: Does the department project that there will be a reduction in the number needed in that particular section when the two plans come together in July 1, 1972?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Who can guess, it cannot be much either way. The functions have to be performed, there can be reductions—

Mr. Ferrier: Are there not duplications now in certain administrative services? I do not want to get into the debate of that particular aspect now, but—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but what we lose on one we pick up on the other. Three million people added means—what?

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, what will happen of course with the melding of the services, is there could be a saving in personnel. But what you are adding to the programme is, the OHSIP proper covers 4,500,000 people; in July 1, 1972, it will be covering 7,500,000 people.

Mr. Ferrier: So you will be needing probably more rather than less staff then? I think it will be better to deal with the particular programme, such as mental health, the personnel required there, in those votes rather than under this section here.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Item 4, vote 701, carried.

Item 5, research and planning services.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if under this vote we could perhaps deal with what research and planning the department is doing in providing opportunities for more Ontario young people to go into the medical profession. Now we have had some questions and answers in the House as to why more young people, Ontario's young people, are not getting into medical school and graduating as doctors, why we have to depend so much on doctors from the UK and other jurisdictions.

From an economic point of view it is a big saving for us not having to educate these people, and getting them in here with their training all finished, but from the point of view of opportunity for our own young people it is not a very satisfactory approach.

The minister suggested that certain work had to be done in the various hospitals to provide more clinical opportunities, I believe, for interns, that this was one of the major problems.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And students!

Mr. Ferrier: But I think that surely there has to be some more thought given to either using the medical schools that we have on a 12-month basis or else moving into the building of another medical school. The report of the OHA suggested that they were going to take another year in studying the actual

location of another medical school, and they would be making recommendations to the department on this score. Previously they had recommended, I understand, Waterloo as a possible centre for this particular medical school, but they felt that this year it could be postponed until another year.

Those of us, of course, who come from northern Ontario would very much like to see the next medical school built either in Sudbury or Thunder Bay. I think that it would be a big boost to us in providing doctors for our own particular area and giving the young people of the north a chance to more or less study in the north and probably go back and serve in the north.

I am very concerned that more opportunities need to be given to our young people. We talk about unemployment among our young people today, after graduating from various other courses. I think that we have got the qualified young people who have the capability and the dedication and the desire to go into medicine. We are turning down many students each year.

Why can we not give them the education here now? What are you trying to do in regard to this new medical school? Has the research reached the stage where you are prepared to now pretty well recommend that you are going to go into another medical school?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Another medical school I do not think is the answer to the question you posed. Maybe we should have another new medical school, but it would be for different reasons than to accept it as the panacea of our volume of production of medically-qualified personnel. I mean doctors and physicians. The impact of a school per se does not mean that much. The development of a medical school in the north makes other problems, because a medical school operates in relation to patients.

Mr. Ferrier: There are lots of patients in Sudbury and North Bay.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is still a question of the relationship between the school and patients. I think, as I mentioned when this question was raised earlier, that it is a question of getting kinks out of the system, and that our present system is capable—restructured it is capable—of producing medical students in a greater flow than would be effected by one or two medical schools as such at all. Now the kinks in the system—perhaps I would ask Dr. Reid to discuss this

and where we can hope for loosening up our flow of those going through the medical training system.

Dr. G. W. Reid (Research and Planning Branch): The government programme in the existing medical schools envisages an increase in output of some 60 per cent. That is what is envisaged now in our current programme.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well what year do you plan to—

Dr. Reid: In 1975. The other feature you talk about, the difficulties associated with the developing of a new medical school, would take some considerable period of time.

Mr. Ferrier: Perhaps Dr. Reid could tell us how or what specific plans are afoot to increase the present output by 60 per cent.

Dr. Reid: The present plans include an expansion at all the medical schools, plus the new medical school at McMaster. Those are the existing plans we are talking about now, and that is the 60 per cent increase. There are other plans and studies in being now to see whether that 60 per cent can be increased further within the existing system to give us an increased capability there.

Mr. Ferrier: If you increased by 60 per cent, how many doctors from outside jurisdictions will continue to be needed to supply the demand that exists each year in Ontario?

Dr. Reid: I think this plan would envisage a halving of the current immigration rate.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is basic. There is also room for other expansion by, as I suggested, taking some of the kinks out of the present system, and those relate back to the question that was discussed in the House, the availability of teaching facilities, the use of hospitals, and the relationship between the universities and the hospitals.

Mr. Ferrier: How much headway are you making with taking these kinks out? Are they insurmountable?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no!

Mr. Ferrier: Are you making quite a bit of headway with them?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well headway, if we are planning on where we are going. The other thing is that—and this must be explored in relation to whether it be Sudbury or Thunder Bay, or whatever—of course it may not be a question of either a medical school

or no medical school. There may be a way of developing medical training on a campus basis. In other words, where you would have in Thunder Bay or Sudbury, or wherever, facilities for training, that would be related to a campus programme at one of the existing medical schools.

Dr. Reid: Mr. Minister, another kink that has been discussed is the change in emphasis from specialty training, the training of clinical specialists, and the concentration of the training of physicians who can enter family practice.

Mr. Ben: I understand one needs an average of 85 per cent to get into McMaster medical school, is that correct?

Dr. Reid: I am not sure. I can say the standards are high.

Mr. Ben: Do high marks in entrance exams usually relate directly to the calibre of the doctor that you turn out?

Dr. Reid: Are you asking me personally?

Mr. Ben: Have you had any particulars on that at all?

Dr. Reid: No, I have not. There are figures available but I have not got them here.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gaunt.

Mr. Ben: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, I just want to know: do you have to have such a high average to qualify to get into medical school?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would say, probably the bright people who have 85 per cent are as good or bad as bright people who have less.

Mr. Ben: I have here statistics, Doctor, which show that those who graduate with the highest marks do not necessarily make the most successful practitioners, and I am not restricting this to the medical field.

Dr. Reid: I think that is fair comment, sir.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gaunt.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I am wondering about the numbers of doctors imported from other countries. Do you have any statistics on that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, we do.

Mr. Gaunt: During the past year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Each year, and every year. We can give you all that.

Dr. Reid: The registration in Ontario in 1970: 540 were graduates from Canadian universities, 193 came from the UK, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, 18 from US universities, 169 from foreign medical schools, making a total of 922.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, Mr. Chairman, really the point that I was—

Dr. Reid: Further, sir, that of the 540 from Canadian universities, 372 came from Ontario universities.

Mr. Gaunt: The point that I wanted to make, and I make it now, it seems to me that we would be far better taking our own people into our medical schools. I understand that this whole business is tied up with the spaces available in our medical schools, but it seems to me that there are many, many good young people who apply to our medical schools and are turned down simply on the basis of their marks, and at the same time we are importing 922 doctors into the country to practise medicine here.

And it seems to me that, rather than in some cases raiding these other countries in order to get doctors to meet our medical requirements, we would be far better encouraging—indeed we do not need to encourage them, they are already there, they are not only willing they are trying to get into our medical schools. They want to make medicine their career, they are dedicated young people, and simply because they do not have the percentage they are cut out, and in order to meet the medical needs we have to import large numbers of doctors from other countries.

In some cases these doctors are needed in the country of origin. They should not be coming over here at all because they are needed in their own countries just as badly as they are needed here. And it seems to me that the emphasis that we have been lacking in this area should now start to become much more pronounced. I really do not think that we have given this particular aspect of the problem enough attention.

It seems to me that we are going to have to shift the emphasis, particularly in view of all of the connotations that surround this type of thing. I mean here we have young people who are vitally interested in getting into the medical profession and we are cutting them out, we are forcing them to go into other lines of endeavour, other fields of endeavour, whether they be related to the

health field or otherwise, when we actually could be utilizing that talent within our own province and within our own country.

Maybe the minister will answer me and say, "Well, it boils down to the fact that we do not have the space in our medical schools." If, in fact, that is the only drawback and the only roadblock in moving forward in this direction then I say that somewhere back a number of years ago we certainly had a frightful lack of planning insofar as medical schools and facilities are concerned in this province. I would like to hear the minister's comments because it seems to me that this is a pretty vital area.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well you are talking about two different things it seems to me. I think you would be the first to object if we started to—as we have been accused of doing from time to time in the House — discriminating against immigrants who were properly trained in medicine and wanted to practise medicine.

As a matter of fact I have been accused even in the short time I have been in the portfolio of being party to the exclusion of central European doctors of dentistry from practising dentistry here, and very severely criticized for this. On the one side I think you would not want to ally yourself with the exclusion of properly qualified doctors, or properly qualified immigrants, who wanted to practise as physicians. Right? You do not want to go on that limb?

Mr. Gaunt: No, no!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Then there is another side to it, it may be related, I do not know if it is or not, and that is a critique of our standards in this province—and that is a good ground for criticism if they are too high—or our volume of training in this province, which is another good ground of criticism. But when you use the word "import"—I think that is not the approach that you really want to make to the question of the immigrant doctor.

Mr. Gaunt: My point is simply this. I recognize that a doctor in the UK or in France or wherever he might originate, I recognize that he of his own volition has every right to make the decision to come to Canada.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Which they do.

Mr. Gaunt: Which they do, and I recognize that. They do it all the time, and they have got every right to do it and I am sure

we are glad to have them in this country, provided they can meet the medical standards to which we are accustomed.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Which they do, too.

Mr. Gaunt: Which they do, otherwise they do not get a licence to practise. That is one part of the argument, but I am not talking about—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But that is not in keeping with the concept of the word "import."

Mr. Gaunt: No, but I am not talking about that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That to me is bringing in a football player to throw—

Mr. Gaunt: Let me get to the word import. What I am talking about is where—and this has happened, Mr. Minister—where we have made overt attempts to attract doctors to this country in order to inspire—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, I do not know, have we? Not in Ontario.

Mr. Gaunt: Certainly we have.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the north, of course, and where there are no doctors at all, and where we run out of a particular specialty, but we are not dealing here with—

Mr. Gaunt: I can think of two or three occasions where it was pretty obvious to me that there were attempts being made to encourage medical doctors from other countries, to come into this country to practise medicine. Maybe it does not happen very often, but I think that when it has happened—and with respect I say that it has happened on two or three occasions—in my view I think that is a bad practice. I think the emphasis should come in our own province and through our own medical schools in improving the facilities therein, because that is where we can train our own people. This is, in my view, a multi-faced type of approach, because if we get young people from the hinterlands of the province to go into the medical schools and to train for doctors, those young people are much more prone to go back to their own communities to practise—at least a lot of them are, not 100 per cent.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a little sad-denying how few are.

Mr. Gaunt: Well it is more likely that they will go back, rather than trying to get someone from Metropolitan Toronto to—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not quite so sure. I think you are probably wrong there.

Mr. Gaunt: I have not got any statistics to prove I am right, but I—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us get to the real question. If we avoid the word—and I am sure you will withdraw it—"import", as though we were conscripting people from areas that needed them, as distinct from recognizing the essential qualifications and rights of immigrants, then you—

Mr. Gaunt: All right. I will use the word entice, or encourage.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think we do any enticing. For specific problems we do some encouraging, but it is minimal.

But coming back to the whole problem I would like Dr. Reid to answer that other side of your question, which I do not think should properly be mixed with it, and that is whether our standards are too high and our flow is too little. Is that not the other side?

Dr. Reid: I think there is a degree of awareness in our medical schools today about the length of the training period in our medical schools. There are movements afoot in our medical schools to look at ways where—by the process can be simplified and the output increased.

I think the medical schools are very conscious of this. I think the medical schools also are very conscious of the fact that qualified applicants from Ontario, a portion of them, are not gaining acceptance to the schools, and the schools are considering this problem very seriously at this time.

I believe also—although perhaps I agree with you, Mr. Minister—that people from the hinterland may not go back. But, for example, the McMaster medical school at the moment are having discussions with northwestern Ontario to see whether or not they cannot encourage a proportion of applicants from northwestern Ontario to the McMaster medical school as a pilot trial.

So I think it is true to say that our medical schools are more aware of the problems which have been spoken about tonight than they were in the past.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I really should ask whether you were enticed.

Dr. Reid: I think I was deported, sir.

Mr. Ferrier: Is it not a matter of record that we do send delegations to the UK, from time to time, for this purpose? Last year when we were discussing these estimates Dr. Copeland was delayed on a trip to the UK to interview a number of doctors about coming to Ontario. I know one of the communities in my own riding needed a doctor in the worst way and we met with Dr. Copeland and he was on his way to England the next Monday, so I think that there are recruitment teams that go over, at least to the UK, to try to attract doctors over here.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will let Dr. Charron deal with this one, if I may.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, I think with regard to special circumstances that certain invitations may have been issued. This relates to our under-serviced areas and getting physicians that would be prepared to go to under-serviced areas. The same opportunity is offered to the physicians in Ontario and throughout Canada, but where we find that there is not sufficient response then we go farther afield in order to get people who are prepared to provide service in these circumstances.

The other special circumstance was with regard to psychiatrists, but we only went to countries that had been supplying a substantial number of physicians to this country, chiefly the United Kingdom, and we did not attract very large numbers.

So it is not a question of really attracting very large numbers through this process of invitation and certainly these invitations do not go out to underdeveloped areas where they are really short of physicians.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We export doctors too.

Mr. Ben: Oh yes, we export doctors too.

Mr. Gaunt: What is the flow then? The export, I would presume, would be very small; about one to 10?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know, it is in our favour, but we still do export them and that must be recognized.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Yes, Mr. Chairman, on March 30, 1971, an article appeared in the Telegram where a Dr. Harding LeRiche, head of the department of epidemiology and biometrics at the University of Toronto, made some

scathing statements about training. I am going to read some of the statements he made and I am going to ask that you answer, if you do not mind.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have read them.

Mr. Ben: Well I will just see if you are prepared to answer them. He was raising the same point as raised by my hon. colleague. He blamed the Ontario government and its medical profession, the academics and even the general public, for spending millions on medical science centres like the university teaching hospital in London. He said the millions would have been better spent in the essential task of creating more opportunities and spaces for qualified students.

Do you want me to read them all at once, Mr. Minister, or do you want me to take them one at a time?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but I know that I have read them and Dr. Reid has studied them. I am just wondering—

Mr. Ben: I should just read them to refresh your memory so you will know what I am asking.

Another point that he raised was that since 1955 the output of doctors in Ontario has risen only from 318 per year to 366 in 1970. That is an increase of 48 over a period of 15 years, three a year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Would it shortcut things if I asked Dr. Reid for a commentary for you on that article?

Mr. Ben: Sure, give me a commentary, but I sure would like these people to know what we are talking about.

Mr. Ferrier: We have read the article.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have all read it, I think. Could you give us a short commentary on that particular article, Dr. Reid?

Dr. Reid: I do not know if I can give you a commentary in detail except that Dr. LeRiche's statements, in line with many of the statements, do have an element of truth. But they do not state the whole situation, and I do not think that Dr. LeRiche's criticisms really take into account the impact of the developments he is talking about. He relates the output before the programme he is talking about has really come into fruition.

Mr. Ben: When will the programme come into fruition?

Dr. Reid: It is coming in now, bit by bit, but he is talking about the output in the late 1960s. Some of these developments he is talking about, for example, the development of the University of Western Ontario, have not been completed yet, and the expansion that will accrue from these developments has not come into being yet.

Mr. Ben: Surely, Doctor, he would be justified in his criticism of the inactivity of the government in the past, when he points out that from 1955 to 1970, over a period of 15 years, the output of doctors was increasing only at the rate of three per annum? That surely is a condemnation of this government's activities in the past, to say the least, and I am not going to ask you to answer that question because of your position. You certainly cannot condemn the government, but I put it as a rhetorical question, and I will save you the embarrassment of answering it. In that light, Mr. Minister, surely you cannot condemn LeRiche for pointing out where the situation—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I agree, I do not condemn, no one can really quarrel with that part of his observation, to the extent that it is a question of priority. We spent our money to a great degree, I think it is true, on hardware facilities, buildings, equipment and all those physical things. Probably over a 10- or 20-year period this may be questionable, but on a short-term basis, I think perhaps to the detriment of an increased flow of those trained.

Five years from now, 10 years from now, we will marvel at the wisdom of those who did this, but at the moment we are suffering from the fact that the concentration of effort related to the facilities themselves.

Mr. Ben: The doctor pointed out that—

Dr. Reid: I think what Dr. LeRiche did not take into account is the degree of obsolescence which did exist in some of our medical schools. It is well recognized that in 1966 some of the medical schools and some in Ontario were about to lose their accreditation as medical schools because of the condition of the facilities that they had at that time.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Ottawa was an example. The Ottawa General Hospital came very close to losing its accreditation, did it not, two or three years ago?

Dr. Reid: The facilities in Ottawa, the facilities at Queen's University were very

poor indeed and were by no means the facilities required for a modern medical school.

Mr. Ben: That is a rather interesting revelation. Obviously Ontario was not as perfect as we were led to believe.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a question of time framing.

Mr. Ben: You evade the question of timing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have not said it before.

Mr. Ben: Here is another point raised by Dr. LeRiche—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a question of time frame, as I suggest to you; we may quarrel with it today—the investment and concentration on facilities—but we certainly will not be quarrelling with it 5 to 10 years from now.

Mr. Ben: The doctor went on to say that Ontario has only 70.7 medical school places for each million people while Alberta has more than 100 places. Even Quebec, the have-not province, has more than 87.

When this new medical school comes into being at McMaster, how many places in medical school shall we have per million people?

Dr. Reid: I have not got that figure.

Mr. Ben: How many places is McMaster going to have, is it 60-something?

Dr. Reid: There will be 65 going to 75.

Mr. Ben: How many places have we got today? Is that figure of 366 in 1970 accurate?

Dr. Reid: There were 372.

Mr. Ben: It was 372, so we shall then have approximately 438.

Dr. Reid: We are going up to 550.

Mr. Ben: To 550? We have a population of what, 7.5 million? So we are still going to be lower than Quebec by quick calculation—no better certainly.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know the significance of the figures.

Mr. Ben: We are still behind. My friend here was pointing out how many doctors are coming in. You say you are not recruiting. It is fine for doctors who come from a very highly-developed and technological society

like the United Kingdom or northern Europe, but unfortunately we are also having doctors come here from what we now call developing countries. At one time we used to call them underdeveloped countries.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The bulk come from the United Kingdom, which is hardly a developing country.

Mr. Ben: I beg your pardon?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The United Kingdom is hardly a developing country.

Mr. Ben: It is what we deem to be a highly industrialized nation—a highly technical nation and has quite a number of doctors. They are certainly not going to Zambia or Ghana to recruit doctors, are they?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I can think that we are in a different position from the Province of Quebec. I would doubt that there are many immigrants coming from Britain or the technologically highly developed countries who would face the linguistic problems of Quebec as easily as they would those of Ontario.

I doubt if there is very much difference in the total immigrant—you know, the immigrant flow, I expect, is part of the same pattern.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, you are not going to deny that Alberta has got a great attraction for people from Texas. They are certainly attracting a lot of those into Alberta and yet they have 100 places per million of population.

Dr. Reid: Mr. Minister, about the Alberta situation; I think it is true to say that in the decade from 1958 to 1968, Alberta accepted from the United Kingdom, as immigrant physicians, about 75 physicians per year which is the equivalent of the output of one medium-sized medical school in the United Kingdom. In the ten years, 1958 to 1968, Alberta drew very heavily on the United Kingdom.

Mr. Ben: I am glad to see that Alberta has taken them besides B.C.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, the council of health went to California to examine the Kaiser Permanente—however you pronounce that word—concept of health care delivery. They came back to Ontario and made the recommendation that the department set up a pilot

project in this field to ascertain how this might operate in Ontario—whether it was feasible here, or just what.

I suppose it is a variant of the community clinic type of health care delivery system, the capitation system, and so on. Has the department given consideration to a pilot project in this field as recommended by the council of health? What kind of research is being done in this kind of health care delivery system?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Before considering the California experiment, of course, we had Sault Ste. Marie and St. Catharines, about the same time, roughly contemporaneous. Beyond that, as I was mentioning yesterday, there is no end of interest in the development of projects in the field of community clinics. The critiques of the Kaiser experiment are coming in now. I suppose my latter department was involved in insurance; it involves, I suppose, in the medical field the system of creaming, which looks great as you look at your premium and look at your operation. But when you see an exercise such as this as tending toward creaming of risk, or creaming of function, you hold back, particularly in Ontario where we have a universal system. Is that not one of the cautions?

Dr. Charron: Yes, Mr. Minister, we have a different situation in Ontario than they have for Kaiser Permanente operation in different parts of the United States and Hawaii. We have a universal hospital insurance programme and we have universal Medicare which makes a substantial difference to the type of community health centre that can be developed in Ontario as opposed to the type that is developed in the United States. Kaiser Permanente system is a system that not only provides a health centre concept but also has hospitals in direct relationship to that programme, and they are able to attract and keep within that one system a substantial number of people. The problem in Ontario is that we have a fairly mobile population and while in the beginning people may be willing to associate themselves with that type of clinic, they are not always willing to associate themselves with that type of clinic for all types of medical care. This is creating a problem and is being evaluated at the present time.

In other situations in Ontario we have 15 or more different types of community health centres that are being planned and developed, and several of these are being directly associated with our health sciences centres; so

they will be used not only for service but also for education and training, and we think that this is equally important.

Mr. Ferrier: Is there any research being done into group practices by doctors themselves who have banded together with a number of different specialties—something like a community clinic but yet totally incorporated by the doctors and under their own control? Has this taken place in Ontario and if it has, is there any research being undertaken to determine whether there is a lowering of the frequency of hospital bed use, as seems to be taking place in the Soo, St. Catharines, and so on? Is the same thing possible and happening in this kind of group practice that may be in operation in the province now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I know we have one on the boards. Do we have any in operation of the type described?

Dr. Reid: First of all, perhaps we could remind the member for Cochrane South that the two operations at the Soo and St. Catharines are currently under study. There is a major evaluation in process which will take about two years to complete, and that study is being funded by the department. So these operations are being studied. Some of the other ones which are being started up now have a built-in evaluation component in them to again produce the sort of information which the member for Cochrane South is talking about.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would think that both of us are laymen, and I will talk in layman's terms. The key problem here in comparing these experiments with the California one, shall we say, is the question of patient or family loyalty and the significance of the locked-in aspect of the clinic. Then under a universal system of health care you have a very different approach to being locked in than you have where you have no universal care system. But I do know of at least one, and there probably will be more very soon—there is at least one doctors' clinic of the type that you are describing, which has come to my desk and which I am very keen on encouraging to move ahead.

Mr. Ferrier: This kind of a clinic and this kind of approach to medicine today, I think, has a good deal of merit because if you try to get emergency medical care in some of the communities of this province even though you dealt with the family physician for years, if he happens to have his day off or be away

and you try to get somebody else, it is a terrific task. If this kind of thing is encouraged, at least there would be a doctor on call to look after the emergency for the whole group.

Hon. Mr. Porter: Even though they are not in a group practice, at least they work together in one office.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, we could certainly do more in relation to the 24-hour aspect of the operation. This relates to experiments and developments that we must watch in relation to the emergency function of hospitals, which are in themselves a clinical exercise. We will see that, too. We will see doctors' clinics and, I presume, we will see community clinics and something that may in the long run prove to be the answer, that is, the hospital-oriented clinic of doctors and capitation developments at the emergency hospital clinical level, for instance, the Ottawa General Hospital as it develops in my own backyard. I would hope to see lower-town Ottawa and the area that hospital has historically served for many years develop in place of its active care treatment, for instance, or its highly developed and sophisticated procedural medical attention and surgical attention, develop in that area a hospital-oriented clinical neighbourhood service. This is the stage we are at. As Dr. Reid said, we have some examples that we can test and work on and I would say as the months go by we will have—you said 15 under development?

Dr. Charron: Under development.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are going to have a pretty good spectrum of choice and assessment.

Mr. Ben: I think you are right, when you say the function of the emergency ward in the hospitals is changing. For example—I am sure others react like myself—but if I need medical services, where I am going to require a doctor to perform something, I do not call upon a doctor. I drive down to the hospital, unless it is an emergency and I cannot leave the home—and that to me is an emergency when I cannot leave the home—because if I go to a doctor, call a doctor, go to visit his office, it is going to require some type of immediate treatment like suturing a wound or the like. What is he going to say? “You had better go down to the hospital to emergency; they will x-ray

you” or “They will sew you up” or something else like that. These are physicians.

I think we are getting to the point where physicians are going to diagnose your illness if they have the time, in other words, practising more internal medicine, and they are going to be sending other people down to emergency ward and people eventually are going to go directly down to the emergency ward. Doctors usually tell you to go down to the hospital at night. I am not one who criticizes the medical profession for not making house calls in the middle of the night. They are entitled to their sleep too and 90 per cent of the cases are not emergencies or what we usually call an emergency case. People are experiencing discomfort or great discomfort, but it still does not preclude them from getting up and going to the hospital. So eventually the emergency of the hospitals will have to end up being 24-hour a day outpatient clinics.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Beyond that, of course, has not been mentioned—it may have been mentioned earlier in the estimates—the hope for development we have in our ambulances. If we are going to deliver at the emergency level, what is there to stop us having hospitals on wheels, so that you—

Mr. Shulman: New York has done that for years.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, only doing it as a full programme, where our ambulance system in this province becomes a miniature hospital for an extension of the emergency ward.

Mr. Ferrier: I think if you are going to have emergency care at hospitals, you have to have doctors there. I can think of an occasion when my wife brought our little girl there and waited about three hours in the middle of the night and was sent home, or a man who had a coronary went to the hospital about 4.30 in the morning and he got to see the doctor around nine. I do not know whether it is The Department of Health's responsibility or the local hospital board or medical society, but it is a general problem throughout the province.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is The Department of Health's responsibility.

Mr. Ben: I am glad to hear that—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is no question. We cannot slough this problematic

development or policy development off on to the individual hospitals.

Mr. Ben: If I may, Mr. Chairman—arising on what Mr. Ferrier said, I have been trying to find a quote that someplace I read, about a woman who was in one of these fancy-type clinics like Kaiser, being given all kinds of tests and finally in exasperation she threw up her hands and dashed out saying: “I want to see a doctor”. So we have got to take care that we do not become the victims of a lot of high-priced scientific machines and never get to see a doctor.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gaunt.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I just want to follow up on this other matter I was dealing with a few minutes ago. You imported 540 doctors last year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Please do not use the word “import”.

Mr. Gaunt: You enticed, you encouraged.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, we licensed.

Mr. Gaunt: You licensed! All right, use your own term, but in any case 540 doctors came into this province from outside.

Mr. B. Newman: He stole them.

Mr. Gaunt: We graduated 372 of our own. Now, it would be safe to assume, would it not, that the medical market could have assumed at least double that amount? We could have assimilated into the medical market at least double the amount?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, no, I do not think so, our doctor-population ratio is not a problem.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, what is the figure now? What is the doctor-population ratio now? In some centres a year or so ago it was around 1,100 to 1,200, and it should be around 700 as I understand it. Has that improved substantially?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I expect, as in so many other things, that it is a question of spreading the thing, the doctor-patient—

Dr. Charron: It is one in 730.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is in the province, but that does not overcome our problem. Perhaps in Etobicoke we are in great shape, but how are we off in North Bay?

An hon. member: They are not very well off in Wingham, either.

Mr. Ben: Neither are we.

Mr. Gaunt: All right. Let me ask you this, Mr. Chairman—may I ask the minister, how many additional doctors we could have assimilated and could have used, and perhaps should have had? You got 540. All right, let me just deal with these—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Unless they go to the areas of need, the broad figures of what we could assimilate do not matter.

Mr. Gaunt: Then we will work it another way. There were 540 doctors came in from outside the province. My point simply is this: if we had graduated 922 doctors, the 540 that came in and the 372 we graduated on our own, then those young people who had been trying to get into medical schools could have succeeded and we would have Canadian doctors and Ontario doctors rather than someone from outside.

In other words, what I am saying is that had we had the facilities and had we done the planning a few years back, we could have graduated another 540 doctors and brought them into the market in an adequate way and absorbed them. What I am really getting around to is that the doctors from outside the province come in here because they feel there is an inadequate doctor-population ratio. Otherwise I cannot see why they are so anxious to come in. They feel they can make a good living in this province.

Hon. Mr. Potter: Where else would you rather be?

Mr. Gaunt: All right, I have heard that slogan before. But the point I am making is that those doctors who come in from outside the province come in here because they think there is a good living to be made here, and it is a nice place to live, sure.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And because they are qualified doctors.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, all right. They are qualified doctors. But they are not any more qualified than our own people who go through our own medical schools.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But it does not necessarily follow that if we had graduated all the number that you speculated upon—

Hon. Mr. Potter: They still might come in.

Mr. Gaunt: They still might come in, I agree that—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How many would we have then exported?

Mr. B. Newman: You are getting to the point where countries will not allow their medical people to leave. Just as Russia refuses to allow their skilled people to leave without a substantial financial payment.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All I am suggesting to the member for Huron-Bruce is that the one does not follow the other. They are people, not numbers, and the production of an extra 500 medically qualified people in Ontario in 1967 or 1966, when our doctor-population ratio is generally adequate does not mean we are going to serve the areas where the need is. It does not necessarily mean they are going to stay here. The imponderables are great but, as we suggested earlier, we accept the fact that we cannot expect a continuation of the kind of flow of doctors from other countries that we have had; in fact, they are dropping off now, are they not?

Dr. Reid: We are forecasting an immigration flow which will drop back to 300.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: So that drop is occurring and we have the challenge.

Mr. Gaunt: Then it is a fairly high priority?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: A very high priority.

Mr. Gaunt: We are going to try to graduate as many doctors in this province as we possibly can?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know if you were here or not when Dr. Reid spoke of the 60 per cent increase.

Mr. Gaunt: No, I missed that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We were discussing that when you were out.

Mr. Chairman: On that note, shall item 5 of vote 701 carry?

Hon. Mr. Potter: Mr. Chairman, I move that we adjourn.

Mr. Ben: Do you not want us to let the vote carry?

Mr. Chairman: Do you want to stay?

Mr. B. Newman: I want to talk on this vote.

Mr. Ben: Now you have done it!

Mr. B. Newman: I want to talk on the planning as far as hospital construction is concerned.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We can both win this if you will hold this until hospital services are before us and I can get a vote through just to see what it feels like.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. I will accommodate you that way.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Shall we adjourn?

Hon. Mr. Potter: I think we agreed, Mr. Chairman, to carry the whole vote.

Mr. Chairman: To carry vote 1.

Mr. Ben: Well, over the objection of the hon. Minister without Portfolio.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 5 carry?

Mr. Ben: Vote 1 carries.

Vote 701 agreed to.

Mr. Ben: We will start at vote 702 tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 702 on Thursday, at 3 p.m.

The committee adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p.m.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, May 20, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1971

The committee met at 3 o'clock, p.m. in committee room No. 1; Mr. O. F. Villeneuve in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

Mr. Chairman: We have a quorum here now. We are on vote 702, page 109, and I had better inform the committee that we will be sitting on estimates from 11 to 1 o'clock tomorrow.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Item 1 of this vote, Mr. Chairman, has to do with registered nursing assistants. We have to take them seriatim. They will not permit us to wander. They are very strict here.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, and through you, to the minister, one of the recommendations of the commission on aging that was held as a subcommittee of this House was that geriatric clinics be incorporated as part of—wait a moment, we are on nursing, are we not?

How many of these nursing assistant training schools do you now operate in Ontario?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): We just have nursing schools.

Mr. Ben: No, nursing assistants. You did have nursing assistant courses. You had six at one time. How many do you have right now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Six.

Mr. Ben: Still the same six, eh?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you want me to name them?

Mr. Ben: Well, I imagine they are the same ones—Hamilton, London, Thunder Bay, Sudbury and the two in Toronto.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is right.

Mr. Ben: And how many did you graduate last year from these six schools?

Mr. H. Sharp (Public Health Division): Eight hundred and eighty-three.

Mr. Ben: Eight hundred and eighty-three. And how many graduated all told from the various other schools? What was the total of graduation of nursing assistants for 1970?

Mr. Sharp: As far as our programme was concerned, 883.

Mr. Ben: Your programme was 883. What was the total graduation for all the schools in Ontario?

Mr. Sharp: It was 5,014.

Mr. Ben: It was 5,014? That would be an almost 100 per cent increase over the year before.

Mr. Sharp: This is for the province.

Mr. Ben: For the province? But the year before you people graduated, if my memory serves me correctly, 1,000 or 1,007 out of 2,775, so that would be a terrific increase of nursing assistants in the one year.

Miss H. N. McCallum (Public Health Division): I think we are confusing the provincial programme, about 57 schools, with the six government schools. You are speaking of the six government schools, but we thought your question was the number that came through in the province.

Mr. Ben: The year before, I believe, about 46 per cent of the people who were graduating, graduated out of your schools. You have got 32 in hospitals, 11 in secondary schools, 12 were operated by mental health division of the Ontario Hospitals and one was under manpower retraining.

The total output of nursing assistants the year before last—this information I obtained last year, it would be for 1969—was given as being 2,775, of which output your six schools graduated 1,007. Now you are telling us that you graduated 883 out of those six schools out of a total graduation of 5,014 for the whole province.

I said it was a 100 per cent increase. It was not 100 per cent, but it was at least 90 per cent. Did you in fact almost double the output of nursing assistants over that one year?

Mr. Sharp: Not in our schools.

Mr. Ben: No, you dropped in your schools. You dropped by 20 per cent or 15 per cent, but did the other schools—they come under your department, do they not, Mr. Minister?

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister): They come up to our criteria of standards. This is right, yes. I think there is a mistake in here. I do not know whether they have the actual numbers here.

We are still graduating about 40 per cent of the total and it was my understanding—now this is subject to correction because I cannot remember all these figures—that our graduate class last year was something like 1,100 and this was still around 40-some per cent of the total of RNAs that graduated in the province.

Mr. Ben: Then the figures that are given there have to be inaccurate when they say 5,014?

Dr. Charron: The 5,000 is for diploma RNs.

Mr. Ben: Registered nurses?

Dr. Charron: That is right.

Mr. Ben: That is how many they graduated last year—5,000 RNs?

Dr. Charron: This was the objective that we set.

Mr. Ben: The objective over five years?

Dr. Charron: No, it is the objective to graduate per year. This includes the RNs and the university trained nurses. This was the objective that was set four or five years ago.

Mr. Ben: Good grief! No wonder we have a surplus of nurses when we are graduating about 5,000 a year.

Dr. Charron: There are about 50,000 on the register. So when you figure the turnover of nurses, you have to graduate a pretty substantial number in order to meet your nursing services.

Mr. Ben: Well, maybe what you should do is encourage more males to go into the

profession. Speak to the women's lib and they might let them in. They are more apt to remain in a profession if you pay them decently, than our females, and we will not have to train so many and waste all that training since they only work for a year or two and marry a doctor and they are gone.

Have you been giving any consideration to inducing more men to enter the nursing profession?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is discussed also, of course. There is recognition, certainly in some critical articles that I have read—not particularly in Ontario, but in North America—that our turnover of nurses is inefficient, uneconomical and is something that should be improved in our health services delivery generally. How you can do anything about that suddenly or abruptly, I do not know.

Mr. Ben: Well, registered nurses do not come under this vote anyway, do they?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but they are related, so I would not quarrel about it.

Mr. Ben: If you are going to raise it, I was reading that one of the reasons why there is such a turnover is that nurses are dissatisfied with their status.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I doubt if that is it—I think it is much more fundamental than that. Well, status, role—total role?

Mr. Ben: Yes, the role.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am only a layman as well. That would only be one ingredient. All I can assure you is that there are critical voices being raised in relation to the point that you mentioned, namely, the degree of turnover within the nursing profession as a whole.

Mr. Ben: Are you going to continue to turn them out at this rate, roughly 5,000-plus annually?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the rate has to match the loss. Have you got the total figure for nursing graduates?

Dr. Charron: The total figure that we have is a correct one, 5,014. Now that is made up of something over 2,000 on the regular training courses, with graduates of nurses' aide and attendants courses—that is in our Ontario hospitals—of 1,620. Then persons with employment experience; they were given a waiver last year and were allowed to try the examination and this was 1,231.

Mr. Ben: These were not given a course. They were just permitted to qualify.

Dr. Charron: They had what was considered to be the equivalent experience. They had not had an opportunity to try the examination, so they were tested out and were accepted under this waiver.

Mr. Ben: Something like a grandmother provision?

Dr. Charron: Well they had had employment experience, I think, over a five-year period.

Mr. Ben: A five-year period.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I have one question that I want to ask. I notice you have budgeted \$625,600 for registered nursing assistant students' stipends. What is the stipend that is paid to a student?

Mr. Sharp: Three-fifty a day or \$70 a month.

Mr. Ben: That is just enough to get them into a nursing home.

An hon. member: Not quite.

Mr. Ben: Three-fifty a day? That is what the government—

Mr. Ferrier: Seventy dollars a month is not adequate to get them into a nursing home.

Mr. Ben: On this Visiting Nurses Association, Mr. Chairman, there is a vote of \$1,300. The minister came out and mentioned home care in his speech upstairs when he was discussing the new programme of nursing homes. Why are you not allocating greater funds now for this purpose since surely you will have to encourage more people to take advantage of home care in order to cut down on the cost of nursing home care when you implement it? Nursing home care is obviously cheaper than active treatment bed care, but home care is still less expensive and in many instances it is just as good.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are dealing with the estimates 1971-1972.

Mr. Ben: Yes, well that is in there—on vote 702.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The home care starts in April. If I am right, it would not be in the extension of estimates.

Dr. Charron: Not extension. We have a home care—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our present home care programme is covered under what item?

Mr. Ben: Special health services, which is the third item. But you have here, under the first item, programme administration and the operation of schools in relation to nursing assistants, you have a grant of \$1,300 to St. Elizabeth Visiting Nurses Association. These, I imagine, are the nurses that go and visit people in their homes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is really a token payment to that association.

Mr. Ben: Obviously it is a token payment, but why is it only a token payment? Would you not want them to start expanding their visiting programmes now so that when you do implement your new programme of nursing homes and increased home care on April 1, 1972, you will have already laid a good solid foundation for the encouragement of home care?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not a problem. This is a grant to the association, not to nurses for services rendered. The grants for the services rendered by nurses come under our home care programme, and next year's estimates will, of course, have to include some extension or some enlargement of costs payable to whatever institutions in the nursing field take up the task; the big one of course being the VON.

Mr. Ben: All right.

Mr. Chairman: Any more discussion on item 1 of 702? Carried.

Item 2?

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, I gather under item 2 that this is where the grants go to the local health units. Last year the former Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) in a speech to the Ontario Public Health Association dealt with a number of subjects. One of the subjects that he dealt with was that of family planning, and he expressed some concern that so few health units had actually adopted health or family planning into their programme, and he listed—I think there were eight—health units that were providing such service or were in collaboration with other agencies, and seven others indicated such services would probably be set up in their areas within the next few years.

He pointed out that there is provision under the Act for this kind of service, and while certain women, I suppose, may prefer to go to their own physician for this kind of information, yet I think that a good case can be made for family planning information and so on being done through the particular health units.

I notice that there are no programmes to my knowledge in northern Ontario, that none of the health units there have picked up this plan, and the minister said that he had instructed the department that any such health unit that included this plan in their spending estimates or their budgets would get automatic approval. He gave them, I think, rather a dressing down for not moving into this field and hoped that they would do so.

I wonder if that speech of his last year had any effect on these health units in that more of them moved into this field in their programmes? I wonder if there are any northern Ontario units that are involved in this programme and, if they are not moving into this field, are you going to take any more firm action to try to encourage this kind of thing throughout the province?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Best, could you bring us up to date on the figures involved in respect to that particular policy?

Dr. E. W. R. Best (Local Health Services Branch): Fine, Mr. Chairman.

At the present time there are nine family planning programmes, which is up by one; nine and one imminent, so it is really 10. Extending from the eight mentioned last fall, Thunder Bay, as far as northern Ontario is concerned is starting, or has started, a family planning clinic. We have a number who are planning or thinking of moving ahead and we expect that there will be more later on this year. We are certainly encouraging it as much as we can.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The policy has not changed insofar as encouragement is concerned.

Mr. Ferrier: I think it is a very good programme, that it should be proceeded with. Granted there are people who do not accept family planning in their particular point of view and we certainly respect those who take that position, but there are certainly a large number in the community who do believe in this kind of approach and I think it is very important in our whole social content. I am

pleased that you are making some success, and I personally would hope that you would continue to aggressively pursue this particular goal.

There is one final question that I would like to ask, then I will let others pursue other matters. It is mentioned by certain people that government should pay the full grant for district health units rather than 75 per cent. It is mentioned in my riding by the candidate for your party that this is the way it should be, that you should pick up 100 per cent. Last year we pursued this matter to some degree and the minister felt that there should be some local autonomy. Is your position still the same?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. If we are going to have—autonomy is too strong a word—certainly significant local involvement, I think it is reasonable to expect local participation financially. I may say, though, that policy in relation to health units as such is something that I am personally reviewing. But it is policy, and I cannot really go any further than to say that there appear to be enough problems involved in the health unit system as it exists today to require new policies.

Mr. Ferrier: I can see in terms of the assistance it would give to municipalities who are paying the 25 per cent that this would be another shift in the burden of taxation from local to provincial. It would be appreciated, and one could commend that type of thing taking place.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think it is a little more fundamental than that.

Mr. Ferrier: But I mean to say, in terms of setting policy and having it carried out, you feel that much more direction and so on from Queen's Park here to these local health units perhaps would get the job done better than is being done now.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, whether it be direction or not, that is the field that I am looking at. I am not so sure that we may not have to restructure our whole health unit programme. If so, it would not be suitable or timely, I think, to up the subventions given to the present ones.

I am not making a promise, but as you can tell from George Ben's face, there are plenty of irritating spots in the present system that need resolution.

Mr. Ben: I have got a grin on my face because up to now you have let more cats out of the bag since we studied these estimates than an anti-vivisectionist. All of a sudden you are saying: "Hell, it is a policy and I cannot say anything on it." Almost every time you opened your mouth up to now you were coming out with policy; how come all of a sudden you say it is policy and you cannot say anything? Has somebody spoken to you?

Mr. Ferrier: Let us say we are pleased to have the kind of policy statements that the minister is making.

Mr. Ben: Sure, he has got a vote of confidence. We appreciate that.

Mr. Ferrier: Because he is approaching the whole field with—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That I do not have. Not even in a general way, and it is distinct from some of the discussions we have had over the past days.

In my own mind and here, of course, I reflect to a very great extent the thinking of my staff; the alternatives, the improvements, the reforms, are by no means settled as to what we want to do. In many of these fields I can categorically point and say there is A, and we are B, and A is where we are going. The policy situation insofar as health units are concerned is a situation in which I see, A, B, C and D as alternative approaches to the problem, so I am only at the stage of recognizing that there is room for restructuring, or a somewhat different approach to, the whole system of health units in the province.

Mr. Ferrier: We appreciate the fact that you are considering it. I think it has been a breath of fresh air already in many of the things that have come out in these estimates. We have got much reason to be encouraged, with some of the approaches that you have taken. We hope that as we proceed further that we will get equally as many positive statements from you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Dymond.

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): Mr. Chairman, the programmes carried on under public health units, I think need continuing and continuous review, revision and updating. I was very interested to hear the hon. member for Timmins or Cochrane North—

An hon. member: South.

Mr. Dymond: —express concern about family planning units, and yet I wonder if this money now is not very largely being wasted.

I think Ontario's birth rate is at the lowest level in our history, or very nearly the lowest level in our history, perhaps with the exception of the depression years, and family planning information now is readily available and family planning methods are readily available to every person in the province, since practically every person is or could be covered under medical services insurance.

When the programme was first introduced, you will no doubt recall that the law of the land was such that many people were afraid to give family planning counsel, except in the vaguest and barest terms. This has been changed somewhat, although we are still a little bit backward in it, but it has been changed enough, as I say, that our birth rate is at the lowest level it has ever been. Now I am very strongly in favour of family planning; I am very strongly in favour of the information being made readily available and the wherewithal being made readily available to those who cannot provide it for themselves as easily as possible.

But, on the other hand, I am also concerned that public moneys should be spent on programmes that are really no longer necessary because of the fact that the information or the education, or whatever you want to call it, is available from other sources.

I would say the same about certain other public health programmes—the immunization programme for instance. This was fine when we were not concerned in family practice so much about seeing the children were immunized, but I would expect and believe that very few doctors in this province deliver a baby without seeing to it that the immunization programme is begun when the baby is old enough to have that programme begun and followed through.

The school service now asks for better recording than ever was done before and I think this is necessary. But to excuse the programme being paid for or duplicated, paid for or provided at a second level out of public moneys because of the fact that the recording is not satisfactory, is a very poor reason indeed in my view.

I would hope again, sir, that these programmes will be kept under continuous scrutiny, because there are plenty of other places, plenty of other aspects of public health, where all of this money can be spent,

and much more, to better advantage now since, I repeat, these programmes and these services are already easily available.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not really qualified to deal with the second part of the point that the member for Ontario was making, namely the relationship between immunization programmes and the practical role of the physician. But of course the one ingredient that he did not mention in relation to family planning, is that equating the birth rate to a waste of money in the programmes leaves out the selectivity of the—

Mr. Dymond: No, no, Mr. Chairman; pardon me, I think I have been misunderstood. I am not relating the birth rate to the waste of money. I am relating the birth rate to the effectiveness of the programmes that have been carried out. Since they have only been introduced in the last two or three years, in nine out of the 35 health units, is it? Or eight of the 30-some health units?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Nine.

Mr. Dymond: Somebody has been given the task of providing the information at other levels, and I say with great respect, but much pride, that the physician is doing it. I say that this public health programme is no longer necessary because it is more readily available to the patient and, I think, more acceptably available to the patient, because the patient would rather discuss this with her own family physician than go in a public meeting place, or in a group setting, to have the information provided.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I expect you would find statistically, that it is the intelligent, the relatively sophisticated and literate citizens who have the lowest birth rate in general.

Mr. Dymond: I cannot agree, Mr. Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Birth rate usually relates to education and economic conditions, which means that no matter how low our birth rate may be in the province as a whole, those who are in greatest need of advice and consultation can still be missed. That was the only comment I was making.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): The birth rate is not low enough. We may have the lowest in history, but that does not say that it is coming within the scope of proper planning of our whole environment.

Mr. Dymond: Mr. Chairman, interestingly enough the birth rate is so low now in Ontario that there are those who—notably the hon. member for Sudbury—who are becoming very much alarmed at the low level of our birth rate.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Sure I am becoming alarmed.

Mr. Ben: There are many people who say you should only fornicate for fun. Surely there is more to being a human being than that. We import about 200,000 immigrants a year, and we tell our own people not to have children. What kind of asinine system is that?

Mr. Dymond: And I hope Canada will continue immigrating a few.

Mr. Ben: We are importing old people who we have to put on old age pension, and we are telling people not to raise youngsters to pay for the cost of all those services.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not what family planning is about. Family planning is planning a family.

Mr. Ben: You just said you were right. Well, family planning is family planning, but—

Mr. Martel: Quite right there. There are many big families where there is no planning. I have a lot of big families in the type of riding I represent. And the very people who need the—

Mr. Dymond: Mr. Chairman, a great many of these same people will not accept family planning. I can say this from experience. I have big families under my care, but they will not accept family planning for various reasons. I hope we will never reach the stage where we are going to force it upon them. If it is offered to them and available to them—

Mr. Martel: No one is suggesting at all that we force it on them. What I am suggesting is, as the minister has indicated, with the illiterate in many remote areas, where there are no doctors, we have got to overcome it. It is not that easy for people in small communities, in isolated communities, to get the type of pill to prevent children if they so desire. Even the information is not available in many, many areas. You go into these small, isolated communities and you see tremendously large families, and they

cannot even support them properly. I just think that we have to continue the dissemination of information. In fact I think it has to be increased in some areas.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, you had some discussions, or the department had some discussions, with the Metro Toronto District Health Unit Study committee. You were supposed to be bringing down some legislation. As a matter of fact, I understood it to be ready—the new legislation for the new health unit for Metropolitan Toronto?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have been discussing drafts—proposals, whatever terms you would like to use—in our efforts, it seems to me our perennial efforts, to rationalize the health units in the boroughs and the city of Toronto and metropolitan area. We are still in the discussion stage. I have given them some new proposals and they are to meet with me soon to go over these proposals when they had the reactions from the different municipalities.

Mr. Ben: May I ask what the stumbling blocks appear to be? I make that plural for your benefit.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The stumbling block is that we want to reach—personally, I do not see total unification of a metropolitan area into one health unit as being what we want. A monolithic amalgamation.

Mr. Ben: Would not the attitude of your department change? I recall when the hon. member for Ontario was the Minister of Health, he was striving to create an amalgamated health unit for the Metropolitan Toronto area. He even held out a very-rich-in-vitamins carrot, or rich-in-dollars carrot, anyway, to induce the municipalities to amalgamate their health services. Now I sort of sense a switch away, your divergence from that philosophy.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I do not think so. But what I personally find more attractive is a close federation of these units as distinct from amalgamation.

Mr. Ben: How are you going to solve the different amounts that these particular municipalities spend—from a high of \$7 per capita for the city of Toronto, which has a large percentage of its population that needs such services to, I think it is, \$2.80 per head, out in Etobicoke.

I am not complaining about Etobicoke. I live out there and like to keep the taxes

down. But the fact is, in all honesty, Etobicoke is not carrying its share of the load. Neither are other municipalities, like York. Most of them do not pay half per capita what Toronto pays.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What we are aiming at—and this applies in lots of other fields—is a centralization of the policy-making function with the maintenance of a degree of independence and decentralization at the service level.

Mr. Ben: Let us have that again.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our effort is to centralize, as much as possible, the policy-making function—

Mr. Ben: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —but to maintain the advantages of a decentralized service function, so that, on the ground, there is some degree of local input, local acceptance of local conditions and reaction to the differences that do exist from one municipality to another.

And it is the effort to reach that balance that comprises the exercise of the moment. And in between doing nothing and total amalgamation, we are discussing a system which would, I hope, produce a centralized policy-making function for the whole of Metropolitan Toronto and a co-ordination of programmes in the whole of Metropolitan Toronto, without losing the residual benefits of having administration close to the people, affected by the circumstances unique to the particular borough.

Mr. Ben: Are you prepared to pay Toronto 75 per cent of its health costs without the necessity of amalgamating the health services in the Metropolitan Toronto area?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Without amalgamation? Yes, I would be prepared to. Whether the Treasurer is prepared to, of course, is another part of the question.

Mr. Ben: But your department is prepared to pay to Toronto 75 per cent of the health cost? This was the carrot that was held out in order to induce us to amalgamate, without the necessity of amalgamating these health services.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: From a service and administrative point of view, yes.

Mr. Ben: Fine.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If we can get the policy function centralized or unified so that the overall operation of the units is rationalized or sorted out so that the quality and quantity of service is more co-ordinated or more even, yes, I do not think there is any need for total unification into a monolithic administrative structure.

Mr. Ben: I want to pursue this because I want to pin you down, if you do not mind. Again, this is another cat out of the bag.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am in the midst of negotiations. You cannot pin me down because I have asked them to come back with their reactions.

Mr. Ben: To begin with, Mr. Minister, let us set the record straight. I think all hon. members sitting around here are aware that each minister has to go to the Treasury Board and convince the Treasury Board of the justness of his cause. And we know that if you want some more money, you have to go to the Treasury Board and convince them that you should have it. Okay? Every department has to do that. Every minister of the Crown has to do that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but here you have got a question of interpretation about when I go to the Treasury Board, and it is the problem of the semantics that you are using. I have to convince the Treasury Board that the fundamental conditions have been met regarding the increase in the grant in relation to the unification of the system.

If we reach this point—and, as I say, we are still in the discussion stage—if those discussions work out in the way I hope they will, I have still got the task of saying to the Treasurer, "This is the kind of unification that fits with your policy." He may say, "Nothing less, within the terms of that policy, is meant than absolute amalgamation."

Mr. Ben: At the present time you are paying what percentage of the cost of the health services?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Twenty-five per cent.

Mr. Ben: Twenty-five per cent. Okay. Your department offered to pay—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Seventy-five per cent.

Mr. Ben: —seventy-five per cent if they would unify. There is an iniquity at the present time, because the city of Toronto—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Inequity, I think.

Mr. Ben: —has got the largest percentage of people who require the services that are given by the health boards or health units.

The city of Toronto, as I pointed out, charges its taxpayers \$7 per capita to carry out the functions of these health boards or the local health units, whereas some municipalities like Etobicoke tax their citizens only \$2.80; in York it is \$4.81. That is not just. Toronto has been paying through the nose because the boroughs refused to have the service amalgamated.

They feel that slowly but surely all their independence is being eroded and eventually, by attrition of their responsibility to their citizens, they are going to find themselves amalgamated. This is what bothers them.

But we recognize that there is an injustice at the present time. You have offered to pay 75 per cent of the cost. Fine. All that I am suggesting you do is tell the boroughs they are going to remain; if they do not want to be amalgamated, fine. If they want their independence, fine; we are going to let them stay the way they are and we will pay them the 25 per cent. But Toronto carries the bulk of the load and taxes its citizens almost twice what the boroughs do; henceforth we are going to give a grant of 75 per cent of their local health costs. We are not asking the boroughs to come in, but if they want to come in voluntarily and partake of that pot of gold that we are going to be giving to Toronto, they are welcome to it.

But surely it is about time that there was some relief for the citizens of Toronto, who have to carry these health services which are engendered by people from all over Ontario, in essence, coming to Toronto, because this is where you can get all kinds of services, where you have all the units. You have got the university hospitals here that can give treatment. You have got the experts. You have got the social service agency. You have got adequate transportation to places where you can get rooming houses, and this is where you have the largest concentration of Ontario Housing.

It is your money that has been attracting these cases to Toronto, but now it is the citizens who have to pay the result of your money attracting them. So why not just pay the city of Toronto 75 per cent of the cost and relieve the burden that way?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It might be an amelioration for one municipality, but our

objective is to go beyond that, and the objective is something that affects the whole metropolitan area.

Mr. Ben: What is the objective, sir?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Equalization of service; getting policies so that they are consistent. It is no use having a particular programme in one borough and not in another.

Mr. Ben: Maybe one borough does not need it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Can you believe in the fundamental health services that there are going to be any really great differences? These anachronisms should come out of the metropolitan area and personally, as I mentioned, I see no reason why this could not be achieved by a good, tight federation as distinct from lumping them all together into one big administrative unit.

Mr. Ben: Are you aware that prior to the amalgamation some of the boroughs—this is when they still had 11 and 13 of them—had almost no welfare programme or no welfare staff because they had so few people on welfare? In areas such as Swansea, for example, or even New Toronto, which had a good industrial-residential ratio, a lot of services were not required by their citizens because they happened to be very small communities and highly industrialized, with most people either employed or retired.

But I just cannot understand how you are going to have a federation and have them all have the same policy unless you dictate that policy, unless you say that every municipality of Metropolitan Toronto shall have and supply accommodation for the following services.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Of course, this is a question of how you exercise the power of government. I feel that persuasion is always worth some effort and that dictation is the last resort.

Mr. Ben: You remind me of the federal government and its guidelines. It does not seem to have been doing too well—especially Young and his Prices and Incomes Commission persuading people to keep a lid on prices and keep a lid on increases in wages, to keep a lid on anything. It may be the age of Aquarius, but it is not the age of persuasion, and I think it is time you started trying something else to achieve what you must believe is the right order of things. If you

did not believe, you would not be pushing it, would you?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel and then Mr. Dymond.

Mr. Martel: I want to make a point—two points actually—but it refers back to the other point we were talking about previously with respect to the dissemination of information.

I would suggest rather strongly, Mr. Minister, that if we had even better dissemination of information it would probably cut down on the rate of pregnancies that ultimately leads to abortions. I think if we had a better system of information, a better system of family planning, with the availability of better materials, rather than the necessity for abortions, that ultimately we would see a great reduction in the requests for therapeutic abortions and in the number of women who go to some “butcher shop” to get an abortion. I think the answer lies in educating the people before the fact happens rather than after, and advising women who have to seek out abortion; this could be the greatest move we could make to reduce that need.

The other point I want to raise is the result of something I raised during the estimates last fall with respect to the health unit in Sudbury. At that time some information had been presented to the Sudbury district health unit in the form of pablum.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the form of what?

Mr. Martel: Pablum. Pablum that was full of bugs, etc. The health unit gave a sample of that pablum to the company that produced it, Mr. Minister, without an analysis being done. I want to know what measures have been taken to ensure that this does not happen again, that the health unit before getting an analysis themselves would turn over the entire sample to the company and consequently there was never really any proof that something detrimental was not in there? I am just wondering if directives have been sent out so that this practice does not go on?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know if directives have been sent out, but it is such a dumb thing to do that.

Mr. Martel: You want to believe it, Mr. Minister, you want to believe it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps Dr. Best would comment on it.

Dr. Best: Mr. Chairman, this, of course, was an embarrassment to the medical officer of health concerned and he has taken the obvious measures.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: At the local level this was very embarrassing.

Dr. Best: He has made appropriate arrangements that any future samples will be split.

Mr. Dymond: Mr. Chairman, I have listened to the proposal in respect of the attempts to bring the Metropolitan Toronto boroughs into a district health unit. I would like to know from the minister if the same kind of thinking would apply in the case of counties that have withstood all the efforts to join in districts? If, where two or three counties have been advised to get together to form a district, if there is uniformity of service throughout those counties, in a loosely knit federation if you will, without amalgamation, if the same fiscal arrangement could be made for them as has been proposed for Toronto?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will not speculate on that except to say that what I would picture for Metropolitan Toronto would be tightly knit, not loosely knit. In fact it would be the totality of overall policy, and spending policy in particular would be given to the metropolitan health unit.

Let me jump this hurdle and see if we can create this kind of situation in Toronto before I would consider the counties themselves. But I may say, as I have said, that a loosely knit federation I do not think would meet the policy requirements that my predecessors had in their policy. I do not think it would meet it, it would—

Mr. Dymond: With great respect, Mr. Minister, it would not meet the terms of the law unless you intend to amend the law.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is a question of interpretation, and that is why I answered Mr. Ben's question in the same way. We would, as I recall, have to amend the law I think perhaps to a degree, but in any case this is where the thing sits. We are trying on for size the possibility of having something short of total administrative unification.

Mr. Dymond: Then I take it the same arrangement would apply in the counties which resisted total unification?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will not undertake that it would, because I know—despite a certain lack of knowledge as to the counties and their situation—the federation which is Metropolitan Toronto is to a degree different from the counties and regions that have been developed, and these differences have been recognized in legislation. So it does not necessarily follow that the terms of federation that are acceptable to the government in relation to Metropolitan Toronto are automatically the pattern to which you cut the federation which comprises the regional municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, or Niagara, or wherever. There are plenty of precedents for having different forms of federation, certainly as between Metropolitan Toronto and the rest of the province.

Mr. Ben: Have you drafted legislation which would establish a 15-member Metropolitan Toronto district board of health?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have two or three drafts of legislation as I recall it, and I can only say that these are being discussed by the boroughs, are being discussed in my office, and our effort, whether you think it is worthwhile or not, is to persuade and end up with a proposal that has a fundamental consensus.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, a reporter from the Globe and Mail—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben, excuse me. I do not want to interfere, but I think we have got to hold this in order, and after Mr. Dymond, Mr. Ferrier has requested and then Mr. Young.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I noticed in the 1969 annual report that there were certain health units that had dental programmes and there were other health units that had consultative services where dental programmes were already in operation. Now I would like to know two or three things about the dental programmes now carried out through the public health units. Those that have a full-fledged programme, what kind of procedures are involved in those programmes and those that have consultative services, what kind of procedures are involved there? In other words, how much of a public health programme have we got in the dental field through public health?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Feasby?

Dr. R. E. Feasby (Local Health Branch): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Chairman,

there are 32 health units with preventive dental programmes. Those programmes embrace basically promotion in water fluoridation, topical application of fluoride, dental health education, examination—that is regular examination of school children—and referral to treatment, and research and evaluation of the programmes.

Now in six of our health units there are treatment programmes to selected school children.

Mr. Ferrier: When you say “selected” does that mean those of a lower socio-economic stratum?

Dr. Feasby: Yes, generally. This is done on a means test. Not always. Some units do provide the treatment without a specific test.

Mr. Ferrier: Are you discussing with any of the other health units the possibility of including this in the kind of programme that they have in their particular health unit? Are you doing that?

Dr. Feasby: I would say that this would be a matter of policy and that the department does support preventive programmes. Now if you are going to—yes?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think the question was in relation to preventive programmes.

Mr. Ferrier: No, it was more in moving—there are now six health units that have this particular programme and I wondered if there was pressure from the government side to other public health units to move—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: From the preventive into the operational?

Mr. Ferrier: —into the operational.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Ferrier: Why not? Would you feel that there is not enough personnel or—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps Dr. Charron can say more about this, but I would think it would be inconsistent with the planning that has been developed in relation to dental services generally, to march ahead or increase that particular exercise when we are so actively considering how to start a total programme. Have you any comments on that, Dr. Charron?

Dr. Charron: I think, Mr. Minister, that this is quite correct. You would want to

determine the parameters of your treatment programme and make the best use of your available personnel to carry out that programme, rather than have it dispersed into treatment areas that are probably not as high a priority as the programme that could ultimately be proposed.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You see, the final programme may have bits and pieces of all of these that have to be integrated. Perhaps in some areas the development of the service through the health unit is the best answer. But I can picture in other areas something supported in relation to the dentist as an individual practitioner may be important and it may end up as a blend. But I do not think this is the time in which we commit ourselves to extending the programme through the public health function.

Mr. Ferrier: There was one other question that perhaps I could get an answer to. A couple of years ago there was a pilot project with a kind of educative bulletin called “Murphy the Molar” I think, and it was confined to two health units, and depending upon the success of this programme it was to be extended into the other health units of the province to encourage children to accept proper preventive dental care, I gather, and cut down on the number of cavities, and so on. Has this programme met with any success and is it now extended or did it die with those two health units?

Dr. Feasby: This programme is directed to a specific age group, primarily the 6- or 7-year-old child, and the majority of the health units are using it and it has been most successful in the majority of the units with dental programmes.

Mr. Ferrier: Is there any other kind of material like this that is being used, or is this more or less the sole programme you have?

Dr. Feasby: There is a wide variety of dental health material available both from the department here and the federal Department of National Health and Welfare, and some units produce their own material.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Young.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, the other day I raised the question of cigarette smoking and the education that is being carried on in the schools in connection with it. I am not going over the ground I covered then but I think it is generally considered that this

is one of the great health hazards of the present century.

We have discovered over the last few years just how dangerous it is for our young people particularly, if they start, and each time I raise this the minister himself seems to be engaged in the process. We cannot blame him. He makes no bones of the fact that he would like to stop but cannot, and that is something that a great many people find themselves in. Thank God I never did start the process, I yet have to smoke my first cigarette so there is no virtue on my part in having given it up because I did not give it up.

But you said the other day when we were discussing this that you felt there had been quite a good result from the educational programme that is being carried on through this department, and perhaps The Department of Education. I pointed out that consumption of cigarettes seems to be going up rather than down and certainly this was borne out by the report of one of the large tobacco companies that day in the press. You indicated that your officials would be here for this vote and that we might leave the discussion of that until this time.

So I raise it now and would like to know just how far the process of education is going on within this jurisdiction, how extensive the education programme is, how successful it has become and what the plans might be for intensifying the educational process to make the whole process of cigarette smoking disreputable, rather than the thing to do.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think Dr. Best can describe the programme and the kind of detail you are searching for.

Dr. Best: Mr. Chairman, interestingly enough, in this smoking health programme we have the same kind of a symbol as there is for Murphy the Molar, and it is very helpful as it concerns the target to which our education is primarily directed, and the objective of the programme is directed primarily to the prevention of people starting to smoke. It is found that as far as it concerns altering the habits once established, these efforts have not been found too promising.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am a prime example of that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am trying to think of any good habits I have.

Mr. Young: Of course, pipes are even worse than cigarettes, Mr. Minister, as far as the general public who are non-smokers are concerned; much greater irritation to the nostrils of people who do not smoke.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If I had a larger personal budget I would move to cigars.

Dr. Best: Mr. Chairman, it has been found in fact in both the United States and even here in Toronto that the results of efforts directed to changing the habits which are already established, have not been at all promising. So that the primary target, the most worthwhile target, is certainly the younger age group.

Mr. Ben: Targets by the advertisers, too. You cannot help but note that every time you turn on the television.

Dr. Best: This may well be, but I think—

Mr. Ben: It may well be? Are you denying that it is so?

Dr. Best: No, I am not denying it, but it is certainly the obvious point for a programme to be oriented as far as we are concerned.

They are starting in the Northumberland and Durham health unit with Ricky Racoon and I certainly want to take off my hat to the people associated there. The Ontario Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association has started a programme which has caught on well, and which is now going on across the province. It is stimulating the production by students themselves, and to us this is a mark of how we are catching their imagination. I did bring along things like this that are designed in schools, and they appeal to the youngsters themselves, so we think there is—in fact we know there is—a very substantial educational programme going on and it is varying in intensity in various health units, but it is a very popular programme.

Mr. Ben: Did you ever see a racoon smoke?

Dr. Best: I have not seen that, but I will tell you, sir, that this is catching the imagination of the youngsters, and this is one thing again about changing habits. This is not something that any agency can do for somebody else, such as pasteurizing milk or chlorinating water; this is something that has to be instilled into youngsters themselves. It is actually changing basic behaviour.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Young has the floor.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, the thing that concerns me is while this is going on—and I agree that this is a good programme that is being directed to the youngsters—as I pointed out the other day, research seems to point out that the young people will do far more of what they see their parents and people they respect doing than what they tell them to do. So as long as adults smoke we are going to have this problem.

I think this good, but against it you have the tremendous power of the advertiser who is spending very large amounts of money in the public media—television still, to some extent, although it has been cut down in Canada. Certainly in the newspapers, radio and in all kinds of gimmicks across the board, this money simply inundates the young people and counteracts this other programme in a fantastic measure.

My feeling is that we are going to get practically nowhere relatively, although we are persuading a lot of the youngsters not to smoke. We are not going to solve this problem until first of all we get the prohibition of advertising, this whole bit, and then we go ahead with a large public media advertising campaign to counteract what has been done.

I think that this is absolutely essential, not only in the schools but wherever the kids see the pro-tobacco advertising today they have got to see the anti-smoking propaganda, just as powerful, just as persuasive, in the future. I do not see any evidence of that kind of programme being undertaken at any level of government in Canada today.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: As a matter of fact, I think it is utter nonsense, what you have there, Doctor, to say that you are having racoons show that they are not smoking and crows show that they are not smoking. Who do you gear that to, except five- or six-year-olds?

Mr. Chairman: You address the Chair.

Mr. Ben: All right, Mr. Chairman. At that age how many children are smoking? I know Mr. Dymond admitted he started smoking at 10, but he is an exception. In the meantime when children do become susceptible to advertising what kind of advertising do they meet that induces them to smoke? Not some silly old crow saying it smokes, or a

raccoon saying it smokes, or a bear saying it smokes, but some great he-man riding a horse in Texas saying he smokes, and they are asking children to identify themselves with the big heroes. But if you do not want children to smoke, you have got to start attacking them, trying to get them not to smoke at the same time that the big money interests are trying to induce them to smoke. This is when it is important, when they are teenagers, and when it is permissible for them to smoke. And you have to show hockey players saying: "I do not smoke; I am a good hockey player because I do not smoke, and therefore my wind is not affected." Or you can get Elie Martel's people up north to say: "I am virile; I have 16 children because I do not smoke," or something else like that.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, in all fairness I think that we have to recognize that the time you get these children is at that age. That is, you have got to build up at the very beginning an attitude against this thing and so I think that the hon. member for Humber is just a bit off base when he says that you have got to wait this long. I think we have got to get the kids when they are very young, and we have got to start at the very earliest age possible, and then we have got to continue, and work at this thing and intensify it as we come up toward the age when they are really hit with this problem to smoke or not to smoke.

Now, if you can build an attitude at the start, then when the temptation is there for them to smoke at that point you reinforce them with really powerful sanctions. This is the thing: we are getting this at the start, but we are not getting the powerful sanctions at that level where kids are really faced with the alternatives. That is the thing that disturbs me.

Mr. Ben: Well, Mr. Chairman, we have a limited amount of money. If you are going to spend your money on three, four, five, six-year-olds who read Ricky Raccoon and that stuff, and you do not have your money to spend it where children are most susceptible to this high-pressure advertising, that is a waste of money. The ideal situation would be to have a printing press in the basement here, run your own money, and advertise from the cradle to the grave. But we do not have that.

Mr. Young: Are there any further answers besides this programme, Mr. Chairman, that

are on the drawing boards, even, of this department or this government that the minister knows about?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Beyond those developed through the branch and through the health units, no.

Dr. Best: May I respond to your question, Mr. Chairman? There are other developments in the field, and I refer specifically to planning at the federal level as it concerns legislation and as it concerns advertising. This has not yet been made known.

Mr. Young: But that planning, Mr. Chairman, at the federal level, has been announced on several occasions, and has been postponed on several occasions. We have not any assurance that anything is going to happen there. I think the business interests there are just too powerful for the government in Ottawa to meet.

I hope they are not too powerful for this government to meet. We do have a very large industry here, but it is an industry that over the years can be diversified, and already some of the tobacco companies are diversifying and getting their money into other interests as well as this.

And the same thing is true of our farmers. If we can phase this thing out the lands can be used for other purposes later on. So I do not think that in the long run because so many are being hooked now that the industry is going to suffer, or the farmers are going to suffer. But I would like to see some really definitive plans whereby money is being used and the brains of our people are being used to really do a job in countering what is now going on. I just do not see it, even with the Liberal government.

Mr. Ben: I am quite willing to take a slap at the federal Liberals because it is their responsibility to govern advertising. They just have not got the intestinal fortitude to pass the necessary legislation. They did in the United States. They do not do it here. That does not absolve you from liability in that regard because obviously you should find some solution even if they are idle over at Ottawa. But two wrongs do not make a right. Anyway, what I wanted to get to is back to this business of the health board in the city of Toronto.

Alden Baker wrote in the *Globe and Mail* that the Ontario Department of Health has drafted legislation establishing a 15-member Metropolitan Toronto District Board of Health

and that this legislation was to be given a final review by your provincial department in conference with the Metropolitan Toronto District Health Unit study. He even sets out some of the points that were supposed to be contained in this draft.

The district board of health was to have the authority to review the programme of each local board—this is something that you were discussing—and the district board was supposed to be composed of two members from each of the component municipalities, plus three that were supposed to be appointed by you. He goes on to give us more of this information, indicating that you are almost on your toes just waiting to be able to sneak in and ask for leave that the bill be read the first time.

Now you indicate that it is still in sort of the discussion process. What goes? This man is a very reputable reporter, one of the fellows who really shines down at city hall, and he is a real good digger and accurate—something that sometimes is wanting in the press gallery here—but he is a real hotshot and he almost gives us the type of legislation that we should have and you disclaim any knowledge of it. You say you are still talking about it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, it is an accurate description of the proposals upon which our present discussions are based. I avoid the words "draft legislation" because to me draft legislation is the kind of thing I have in my hand when I go to my Cabinet colleagues and go to the party caucus and say: "This is what I, as Minister of Health, recommend to you." That to me is draft legislation. And that is why I avoid the word as used in that article—despite the fact that in general I think the article is quite accurate—and use the word "proposals."

Mr. Ben: What is holding that up?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are not holding it up. We had a meeting about three weeks ago and our next meeting is planned for very soon.

Dr. Best: Next week.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Next week is it?

Mr. Ben: Do these health centres come under this vote?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Health centres—local health agencies?

Mr. Ben: Like the Parkdale Health Centre that was supposed to be planned out in the Parkdale area by the Toronto Western Hospital?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Community clinic centres. No.

Dr. Charron: Under the health resources development plan.

Mr. Ben: Under what?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The health resources development plan.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: I just have a small item here.

In my own constituency, Mr. Chairman, a group of the workers in the various health fields have come together and are working on a co-operative basis whereby somebody from the health unit, somebody from the Children's Aid Society, somebody from the correctional institution and somebody from the mental health centre come together and they assess the needs of the particular person getting the service from the government and then they more or less pass over to the person who is most directly involved the responsibility of making decisions and doing the contact with the people.

They have found that maybe one family would get a call from four or five workers of the province. I am wondering if The Department of Public Health or some other section is considering more of this kind of co-operative principle with the health and social workers of the provincial government? I think it confuses a lot of people; they get so many calls from different people and they do not know sometimes whether they are coming or going or what to expect next.

Is there any movement afoot through the department to encourage this kind of co-operative procedure? I know when it comes to committing emotionally disturbed children to the regional mental health centre that this committee—they call it COMSAC in my area—is brought together and discusses the particular case. If the group is in agreement then that child is usually committed to the particular institution, or their courses of action are decided.

Do you know if you are giving any encouragement to this kind of thing throughout the rest of the province, or whether there is a desire for it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, there is. You are talking at the functional level?

Mr. Ferrier: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: To my knowledge, most of the effective work is being sponsored or encouraged by The Department of Citizenship. I know in Ottawa, for instance, they have a programme there that picks up, in somewhat the same way as you are describing contact or whatever, picks up some of these ingredients. Beyond that we have—well, Windsor has a very strong citizen's function bit that fulfills this and I think we have others. Here I am really trespassing on the field of the Minister of Citizenship (Mr. Yaremko). Beyond that, have you any comments, Dr. Charron?

Dr. Charron: I think, Mr. Minister, we encourage this throughout the service. It exists certainly in our public health service and through the local health services, where they are encouraged to involve others, so the decision can be made based on broad consultation and then with one individual taking the responsibility.

I think the same thing can be said with our mental health services and that type of arrangement, certainly it applies in home care, where you have broad community involvement in order to provide the type of service that that particular person needs at that period in time.

Mr. Ferrier: I am pleased with these moves in this direction.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The home care thing is a particularly intriguing vehicle for the expanded system of services and services information.

Mr. Ferrier: And greater co-operation through the whole group of services.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, because the person involved in the home care can ultimately be one of a whole group of specialties and yet be a generalist in relation to the knowledge of what services are available. It offers great room for development.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ruston.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): On the health units: the health units now look after the inspection of services for homes, such as septic tank approval and so forth. I understand that this is now going to be transferred to the other department, is that correct?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, it is still under active discussion.

Mr. Ruston: I see.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If you are going into this, perhaps you would await environmental health until we have changed chairs around here.

Mr. Ruston: All right. Then on health services provided in schools and so forth for local health units: what actual service do, let us say, the public health nurses that go to the schools, actually do now? Do they make examinations of the children as far as their eyes and other things are concerned? I think I heard it mentioned that they examined their teeth. What other items and things do they actually do in the checkups at the schools?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Best.

Dr. Best: Mr. Chairman, they perform a variety of functions. One is vision screening to sort out youngsters who may not be functioning fully visually. They do provide screening for hearing tests. They provide visual examination of youngsters who may have been referred by the teachers and refer to physicians and to their parents. They advise teachers on normal growth and development of children.

One of the major programmes, this is within the school, is frankly immunization—to keep this up to date.

A major part of the programme also is the home visiting in connection with schools. If there is a problem found with a youngster in school the nurse sees the child and the teacher there and can go into the home. And it is a good way to bridge information between home and school.

Mr. Ruston: This operation is carried out by public health nurses in most cases? Or are there some registered nurses, RNs in other words, or are most of these functions carried out by public health nurses now?

Dr. Best: Mr. Chairman, in some cases they are. But there are three types of nurses operating in schools; one type is the registered nurse's assistant, the other type is the registered nurse and a third is the public health nurse, and of these public health nurses some have, as well, university educations.

We feel that is the most effective and efficient use of personnel so that the jobs

that can be done by persons with less qualifications are done, and we are certainly encouraging, for example, that visual examinations and audiometric examinations are done by registered nurses's assistants.

We feel it is a wrong use of more expensively trained persons to give these kinds of tests.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, under this vote do we discuss health nurses, nurses for health units?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Spence: Is there a sufficient number of health nurses to take care of requirements? A short time ago there was a great shortage.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We were discussing this earlier.

Mr. Spence: I am sorry.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And my understanding is that there is not a shortage.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, if I can just move on to one other small item. I think it would come properly under this vote.

My colleague the member for Wentworth (Mr. Deans) has been crusading for quite a long time in getting these containers for drugs that are childproof, as a public health safety measure. Are you moving toward legislation that would make drugs dispensed to people in these kind of containers? I know that often a number of accidents happen, and it is a worthy goal, whether it is practical or not. I would think it would be. Are you going to move in this direction at all?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will ask the staff to elaborate on it. But there is an important initiative here of course at the federal level, and I know that Mr. Basford has been very active in developing these standards for hazardous products in packaging. Whether or not we have had a parallel exercise, we will ask Dr. Webb to enlarge upon it.

Dr. J. F. Webb (Special Health Services Branch): Mr. Chairman, I think there is a lot of voluntary acceptance of this idea of using safety closures on the part of pharmacists. Whether or not it is necessary to make

this mandatory to get complete coverage I think is an open question. Certainly there is an increasing acceptance of their usefulness for prescribed dry drugs. The problem of not having universal use of safety caps, of course, is that no model has been developed yet which can be used on bottles for either liquid medicines or liquid household products, both of which are often the cause of childhood poisonings.

Mr. Ferrier: Do you not think, insofar as we do have a container now that seems to be acceptable for these dry drugs, that it might not be a bad idea to make it mandatory? At least those children who do get into tablets and think they are candy or something like that could be protected.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it does, as I intimated earlier, raise this question of mandatory in Ontario. Let me explore how far Mr. Basford and his people have gone into this, or even Mr. Munro and his people. We have not reached the stage, as far as I know, of wanting to move in in this field. I will explore it.

Mr. Ferrier: Could you let me know how you make out?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The obvious advantages in this kind of thing being uniform in Canada are there.

Mr. Ben: Why are you giving \$6,000 for special training of health personnel, to whom is it going and what special training are they receiving?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Now, is that here or is it under health—

Mr. Ben: This is local health services.

Dr. Charron: These funds go to the School of Hygiene and it is primarily for training in the field of industrial health.

Mr. Ben: It is just a grant to the school?

Dr. Charron: Yes.

Mr. Ben: Why do you not have one item then to cover all grants to the schools, instead of spotting them all over the place like this?

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 2 of vote 702 carry?

Item 2, vote 702 agreed to.

On item 3, laboratory services.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, I would like to be a little parochial at this point. I have written the minister about this particular aspect of the problem in my community.

There is a laboratory in the town of Timmins that carries out certain procedures. I think it does the work on water and does some services for the hospital. It is in the town of Timmins and I have suggested that perhaps consideration could be given to moving this laboratory to the northeastern regional mental health centre and expanding it greatly and making it the kind of laboratory that could do the procedures that are being done at the present time. It also could do some of the more complex and complicated laboratory procedures that are done in hospitals in the various areas.

Now a lot of these kinds of procedures have to be sent down to specialized laboratories in Toronto and there is a time lag between the time of testing and the results getting back. I wonder if this is a reasonable area for further investigation and consideration?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, very much so, and I can say we are in the process of trying to rationalize, not only at Timmins or wherever in this province, the use of our laboratory resources, whether they would be our own or private facilities. Each individual situation will have to be dealt with individually, but the overall exercise that is involved here is coming to grips with our laboratory system, if it is to be called a system, and rationalizing it.

The Timmins situation—is there anything more particularly constructive that you can add to that question?

Mr. W. J. Percy (Laboratory Services Branch): No, Mr. Minister, we do the work for the Northern Psychiatric Hospital.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is our own provincial lab?

Mr. Percy: Yes, our provincial lab there does the work for them now.

As far as sending stuff down to Toronto or other places is concerned, at the moment there really is not enough work in the Timmins area to set up real sophisticated equipment, but between St. Mary's Hospital, which is just across the road from our lab and our laboratory, we can do, I would say, 95 per cent of the laboratory work that needs to be done in that area.

Mr. Ferrier: Would there be any thought that both labs could be put into the North-eastern Psychiatric Hospital, where there is room? I know St. Mary's Hospital now has the problem of lack of space for the demands they have. Perhaps this is a few years off. Is there a possibility, do you think?

Mr. Percy: I do not think changing the locale of any of the labs is absolutely necessary; but I do think that in regionalization of labs we have to consider what is done in each laboratory and if we do this and integrate the services in all localities I think we can do more work and better work, more efficiently.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, we had quite a discussion on the first day of our estimates with reference to the statement that you made to the Ontario Medical Association and the questions that you asked, rhetorically or otherwise. One of the questions was: why does your medical association permit doctors to run laboratories?

I put it to you, why were you permitting them to run laboratories? I suggested that perhaps you were passing the buck.

Now we discussed this matter last year, and I think we discussed it the year before, and it was agreed that in some northern or isolated communities it was essential for a doctor to maintain his own laboratory services, because otherwise they would not have these essential services available. But why can you not put a ban on doctors running their own laboratory services with an escape clause which would give you, as the minister, or the director, or somebody, the discretion in isolated instances—you might even say isolated instances of isolated practices—to maintain laboratories, so that we can have the best of both worlds. You follow what I am trying to say?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: My answer to that would be consistent with the answer to Mr. Ferrier's question. That would be part of the rationalization of our private-cum-government-operated laboratory system. We are in the process of developing our thoughts on that now. That would be just one part of a much more global approach to the problem.

You see, at the moment we do not license private laboratories at all. But if we were to have the kind of overall control and the flow of information as to use, and how they relate

to medical services and how they relate to hospital services—of course, we have got to develop a framework in which to do it.

Mr. Ben: Yes, but give credit where credit is due. The member for High Park (Mr. Shulman) pointed out last year what you have now discovered.

Let us put it this way. He suggested that there was much needless laboratory work done and people were charged for these services, and the implication was that this needless work was done because the doctor ran, or had an interest in, the laboratory. You yourselves are now asking the same question, and I wonder why the delay in taking some action?

I think it is crystal clear that there is a conflict of interest, and whether it is right or wrong we must follow the saying that we have in the practice of law, that you well know that not only must justice be done but justice must appear to be done. There should not be what is, on the surface, a strong conflict of interest.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not quarrelling with it, but I would underline—if you are going to go on with this thing—that here we are really dealing with our own laboratory services and the money we need to operate them.

Mr. Chairman: This is really not germane to this particular vote, I think, Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: I can always say, should you not take this action so that eventually all laboratory services would be under your direct control?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As I say, I am not quarrelling, but if you want to carry it on, there is—

Mr. Ben: I think I have made the point I want to make.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for York-view.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, I just want to ask, in connection with this, how does one avail oneself of the services, or for whom are these services rendered?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I missed the first few words of your question.

Mr. Young: Laboratory services—how can I get the services? Who gets the services?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The doctors do, as one example. There are half a dozen different inputs. Could you go through them for me please.

Mr. Percy: The services are run for the medical profession mostly. We do some work for dentists, and we do a great deal of work for the medical officers of health—they have their inspectors. We also work for the inspectors of Lands and Forests and some of the other departments; we work for the inspectors of Agriculture and Food. But for the private individual the only specimen that we receive from private individuals is water for drinking purposes.

Mr. Young: Then what about charges? How are charges assessed for the work done?

Mr. Percy: There are no charges for any tests.

Mr. Young: No charges for any test? So a doctor could not hand down charges for laboratory tests to his patients if they are not here.

Mr. Percy: We do not charge.

Mr. Young: Then if he does that he is wrong.

Mr. Chairman: Any further discussion on subvote 3?

Item 3 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Subvote 4, special health services.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I keep bringing this up almost every year, but I am afraid I must continue to do so. I still believe that our employment programme for handicapped is either nonexistent, or if what exists is to be called a programme it is totally inadequate.

We still seem to be treating those that are handicapped—be it emotionally, or physically, or mentally—as living, if not in an under-world society—and that has a bad connotation—then on the fringe of society. I keep trying to bring to the minister's attention, year after year, the splendid programmes they have in Europe where industry and businesses are compelled to engage a certain percentage of the handicapped category on their staff.

To me this is keeping them as part of society, participating fully in the benefits of society, one of the benefits being the right

to employment among your fellow men or women.

Here we do have a programme of what we call sheltered workshops. I see in the grant here the magnificent sum of \$8,000 to Corbrook shelter and workshop. I say the magnificent sum with tongue in cheek, of course, because \$8,000—I do not know where it is going to take them. We have these sheltered workshops, but in essence what we are doing is isolating many of these young people from the regular run of society. I do not think this is good.

I think that surely we are now civilized enough and I trust that we are human and humane enough, that we can bring these young people to the mainstream of society. This is something that the province can do because Ontario, through labour has shared responsibility in this as far as The BNA Act is concerned. In other words, the federal and provincial governments have jurisdiction in matters of labour although—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our own Department of Labour is most heavily involved in this field.

Mr. Ben: It is not heavy enough. As I say, having sheltered workshops is fine. Perhaps there are some youngsters who just could not fit into society unless it was on a sheltered workshop basis, but I still firmly believe that many who are physically handicapped could play an important role in the mainstream of affairs in our society.

There are many firms which specialize in hiring handicapped people; there are others who make it a practice to give handicapped people precedence. I am fortunate enough to have an accountant who, himself being physically handicapped, tries to give preference to people who also suffer some kind of physical affliction and they are top-notch people. We have this sort of philosophy, "Well, there is something not quite right with them."

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not so.

Mr. Ben: Well, maybe it is not.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly, you know that in government we hire people with all sorts of physical disabilities.

Mr. Ben: Oh, yes. All right, the government hires everything.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And you can go through quite a list of very conscionable firms who tackle this thing.

Mr. Ben: I say there are many. I do not take anything away; there are many. But when we come down to a discussion of philosophy, does the minister read the weekend Tely?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Sometimes.

Mr. Ben: All right. The weekend Tely has one little insert. It is where they have the television booklet called "Toronto Week" or something like that. Each weekend they publish photographs of attractive secretaries from different firms. One weekend it was BOAC. Another one, I am trying to think what the latest one was, some other firm, and so forth. Everything is geared to beautiful people working for firms.

What I should like to see are pictures published of ordinary, handicapped people who are working for different firms. Let BOAC have the Telegram publish how many handicapped people they have working for them. Let CIL publish how many handicapped people are working for them. Let other firms do the same. There are beautiful people all over. Just pick up a newspaper.

What we ought to do is accentuate the other aspect of the situation. So \$8,000 may help this sheltered workshop to a great extent but to me with that kind of a sum we could be taking into consideration the overall picture. I would like to see something more done in that regard.

I think this is the vote where we were going to discuss home care assistance, as I mentioned earlier when we referred to this. I expressed the opinion that I thought the minister should be allowing greater sums at the present time to encourage more home care.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are. We have had quite a substantial increase over the last few years.

Mr. Ben: How much is the increase over the last year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let me see. We will look up the book. In 1969—the year before that, it was \$1.5 million. That has moved up \$750,000, right, for this year. Of course, it will take quite a jump next year.

Mr. Ben: What is \$750,000 when you consider—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well \$4 million is quite a percentage.

Mr. Ben: It is quite a percentage but what is the natural increment in the cost of services, anyway?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is nothing like that. I could say the home care programmes that are developing around the province are being supported as they develop. We are on top of the problems, as I recall it.

Dr. Charron: This is right. I think we have something like 19 home care programmes in the province at the present time. They take quite a bit of planning to develop in order to get strong and broad community support for the arrangements, but we are keeping pace with the developments that are coming forward. We will run into a more difficult period in getting further developments because these will be in urban rural areas. It is not as easy to develop a home care programme in this setting as it is where you have a fairly concentrated population base.

Mr. Ben: How many people are employed in this home care assistance programme now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We do not employ them directly.

Mr. Ben: You give grants?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We give grants.

Mr. Ben: How many are there?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do we have those figures?

Dr. B. J. Blake (Special Health Services Branch): On certain programmes, sir, with a nurse administering for each and a part-time medical director and some programmes there are physiotherapists employed.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And occupational therapists?

Dr. Blake: These are bought from community services on a fee-for-service basis.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Have you any figures as to the overall personnel involved in our supported home care programme?

Dr. Blake: About 70, sir.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. I mean there would be more than 70 people.

Dr. Blake: Well, no. We purchase services from the community—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How many are involved in the total exercise? Do we have the figure? Do not guess if we do not.

Dr. Charron: We do not have that figure, sir.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We do not have the figure because these are supported and not administered.

Mr. Chairman: Does the member have something on this vote? The member for Cochrane South.

Mr. Ferrier: I have. I wanted to make a comment on this home care then I wanted to deal with another item. I think that the home care programme is a very excellent programme, and many of us were concerned that so few communities were availing themselves of this and that the government did not seem to be taking enough initiative in bringing these into more communities. We were extremely pleased that now this is going to become a policy. I hope that your announcement will bring this completely across the province where it is practical to do so.

Now the problem that I want to deal with at this point—

Mr. Chairman: Does the minister have something on this question before we go on?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have a question from the member for Oshawa (Mr. Pilkey) and then I will come to the member for—

Mr. Ferrier: I would like to get in on my other subject. If I give my place to him to discuss home care, I want to come back on this other point. Is that agreed?

Mr. Chairman: I think we can do it that way.

Mr. Ferrier: All right.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Oshawa.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): Yes, just a couple of questions. These grants that you make under special health services—that is what it looks like—they are support grants to these various organizations. How does that come about? Do they make a request to you for X number of dollars and then you make a determination as to how much they are going to receive? What is the formula to determine how much support money these people are going to receive?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are individually assessed on their budget.

Mr. Pilkey: I am sorry, I did not get that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are individually assessed when we see their budget. These particular grants, of course, do not really reflect the amount of government money that may be going into their total exercise. In other words, take the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, \$15,000. If you go down to the home care programme, you will find public funds going to those programmes that purchase the services for much larger amounts, of course, throughout the province, of people who are part of the organization of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society.

Mr. Pilkey: I was speaking, really, more of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. I see they get \$2,000, which seems like a very insignificant sum in terms of attempting to combat that dreaded disease. That is why I asked the question, how do you make that determination.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is nominal to the association itself. Then in our research functions for particular projects. There are significant amounts involved. I suppose our health resources people would be the ones to answer—they are not here—but when we come to health resources then we break down all the significant grants that we make for projects and research and so on.

Mr. Pilkey: Okay; getting back to the point, the member for Humber raised initially about the number of handicapped people that are employed—and I thought he said it in a general sense—you commented by saying that your department specifically have hired handicapped people. Could you tell us how many handicapped people are employed through The Department of Health? Is that a fair question?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It would only be by chance that we would know. Is there anyone in my department who is here—who could give us an idea?

Mr. R. Oss (Personnel Branch): No specific records are kept of this, because the degree of handicapped often varies very widely. We do not keep statistics on a lot of subjects, such as religious affiliation or ethnic relations, and so on. We have no specific way in which we say to the handicapped that they are not equal to unhandicapped in ability or other medical condition. We have no specific record.

Mr. Pilkey: I would be thinking in terms of those who could qualify for a handicap pension, under the Social and Family Services, I think that is where they have it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: A disability.

Mr. Pilkey: A disability. Right. I would term that as a handicap to the extent they could qualify. That is just my own view. They are the people I am talking about, those that qualify for that kind of a disability pension. I was just wondering how many the government employed, particularly The Department of Health.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We cannot give you the figure. It would be very difficult, because there is no record. The hiring is done through the Civil Service Commission on the basis of ability and merit.

Mr. Pilkey: I want to talk about this just for a moment, because I think it is important. Your department spends millions of dollars to combat dreaded diseases, to assist the handicapped, the disabled, through your department. I believe that there are many disabled persons, and handicapped, who could go to work if they were given the opportunity for employment. I sense that they are really not given that opportunity and nobody cares. I should not say anybody cares—I suppose there are people who do. They get a disability benefit. I recognize this is not through your department, but I think you should be concerned about it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You are pulling me into the labour field.

Mr. Pilkey: Not really. I think this gets into the field of the Social and Family Services department, but I think that there is a connection here with your department.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are concerned with their health.

Mr. Pilkey: Right. You are concerned with their health, but here is the Social and Family Services department that has a disability benefit. If the individual finds employment, that benefit is reduced by X number of dollars and they lose, in my view, a sense of security that is absolutely essential, if you are going to rehabilitate these people. That is the connection that I want to make, that your department is spending millions of dollars in this area. Yet, here are these handicapped people that you spend your money on and I sense that a lot of them would like to work at

meaningful employment. They lose their sense of security, because they cannot get this pension if they go to work, or, if they do go to work, it is reduced substantially. I am trying to make that connection.

It seems to me that you ought to be talking to the minister on that basis, that this pension should not be reduced if these people get full employment. I think it should be along the lines of the old age security pension and family benefit programme. Then, I think the money being spent in rehabilitating these people would be meaningful. I just frankly do not think that it is at the moment. I think that a lot of money you are spending is not as meaningful as it could be if these people had a sense of security in their tenure of employment. I just happen to think that that is tied in together.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is to the extent, I suppose, that any kind of social disability in the broadest sense reflects on health. I presume, although I doubt if we have any figures, that the federal government's policy in relation to inflation and the fantastic unemployment figures that we have probably, in a quantitative way, are reflected in health. If people are unemployed, I would think they would be more likely to have health problems than if they are busy, interested, working and secure. So I am not quarrelling with it, except that as a function of my department, it gets pretty ephemeral there, does it not?

Mr. Pilkey: Yes, but it appears to me that there needs to be some co-ordination and co-operation between your department and the Social and Family Services department in this whole area. I just happen to think that there is a distinct connection here between the two departments in this regard. It is just one of the things that I have been thinking about for some time and, maybe, it is more appropriate that it be raised at the level of Social and Family Services, through its disability programme. But I just think that there needs to be that kind of close co-ordination and co-operation between the two departments, because it has a profound effect on these disabled and handicapped people.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is to the extent that we work together in rehabilitation.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, I simply had a question I wanted to ask. I thought we were still on home care assistance. In connection

with home care assistance, is it only the disabled who are considered in this particular vote? I am thinking in terms of people who may be in hospital for a period of time when it is far better to take them home and look after them there than have them occupy hospital beds. Would that sort of care come under vote 706 or would it be in this vote?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No; it just means what it says—home care.

Mr. Young: I see. So if a person goes into a hospital and occupies a bed for a week and the doctor considers then that that care could be very well administered at home by proper facilities and proper visitation, then we could save the hospital bed days this way very effectively. Is there any effort then to encourage hospitals to take advantage of this particular service so as to shorten the stay of patients in the hospitals and is there a widespread movement in this regard?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Very much so in the urban areas where the hospital is suited to the delivery, in a functional way, of the service. The situation is much different though in sparsely populated or in rural areas where your hospital is not nearly as adequate or as appropriate as an institution for this. Some of our home care programmes are developed through our health units. So you can picture it in a rural area where your health unit is the initiator or administrator of a home care programme, but in the concentrated urban areas your best platform is your hospital itself.

Mr. Young: Well, this is now being undertaken at the York Finch Hospital where a board meeting is under way right now and where I should be, I guess, but I am not there. The fact is, it seems to me, this is an extremely important phase of hospital work and the hospitals ought to be pushing this, I think, more than some of them are at the present time.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, they are pushing it. We do not have to push them very much because, of course, there is no better way of alleviating pressures at the hospital level than by keeping the continuum of care moving.

Mr. Young: I suppose it depends on the individual doctors to assess the point for the transfer.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, there are a lot of things that go into it, but next year's

programme will have a tremendous impact on our use of our overall facilities. In my own city the home care programme is very good, as I understand it, and next year I think it will be an excellent system, and more broadly spread.

Mr. Young: So you would anticipate that in a year or two more you will need far more dollars than this \$4.5 million?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh yes, I could not guess the figures.

Mr. Young: And that comes off the grants, then, for actual hospital use, if the patient had stayed?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I wish it were. I guess the Treasurer (Mr. McKeough) wishes it—

Mr. Young: Relatively it comes off, let us say.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What it really does is improve our health services.

Mr. Young: But if you were spending more on the out-patient care, if you will, of this kind, the home care assistance, then you would not have to spend money on bigger grants for days spent in the hospital.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We may stop the acceleration of that cost, but in an overall way I have never seen an operational input.

Mr. Young: I understand that, but relatively the balance will be in favour of lower costs, or more equal costs.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It will be more economical, let us put it like that. We will be spending our total dollars more economically, although our total dollars will expand.

Mr. Young: So the more this goes up, logically, the more money we are actually saving on the total hospital care, we hope.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I would think, without making a dreadful admission, that we will really end up not saving, so much as having a much better health care system in the province.

Mr. Young: Is it not more economical—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly it is.

Mr. Young: —to do this, than to leave the person in the hospital?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right, and we will get a better system.

Mr. Young: That is what I mean.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It will be more economical in the spending of our dollar, but our total dollars will not accelerate as fast.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): I want to carry on on exactly the same topic, Mr. Chairman. I want to refer to the question I asked of the minister before the orders of the day one day and he asked me to put it on the order paper. It was that the local medical profession did write to me a letter, and I forwarded it to your department, concerning the use of the hospitals in the city of Windsor from five to 15 per cent by patients who should have been placed in some other type of facility. Not having that kind of facility in the community, and the one hospital that you do have, Riverview Hospital, being overtaxed, it leads to numbers of people that are not being able to receive the type of care that they could, or being kept in a hospital longer than they possibly should be kept. I am just wondering if, under the homes for special care, there should not be some type of consideration given to a facility in conjunction with a hospital.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the homes for special care, as I recall it, relate specifically to those who are capable of being discharged from Ontario Hospitals.

Mr. B. Newman: Only Ontario Hospitals?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: They have nothing to do with the discharge from acute care or a convalescent hospital at all?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, the steps there are your active treatment hospital.

Mr. B. Newman: Right!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: With or without a convalescent wing.

Mr. B. Newman: Right!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: With or without a convalescent hospital.

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: With or without nursing homes.

Mr. B. Newman: Right.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And ultimately home care. So you have got active treatment, convalescence in association directly with a hospital, or your nursing home programme—

Mr. B. Newman: Well then, Mr. Minister, through you, Mr. Chairman, how do we take care of the patients that need Riverview Hospital treatment but cannot find that type of facility in a community? The hospital itself is now overcrowded. You have patients in the corridors. Now, according to the Hospital Services Commission, it would be eight to 10 years before you would be able to take care of those people in a new construction at IODE, so what do you do with these people in the meantime that need that type of care, the care that they would get in Riverview Hospital if you are familiar with it at all back home?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I am not. But our nursing home programme of course will produce a level of medical care—a fairly high level.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, then, should not some of the patients that are now in Riverview Hospital, which is a chronic care facility—primarily elderly in there, and it is very pathetic when you get into the hospital and see these poor people just barely staying alive, it is very heart-rending. There are numerous people trying to get into that facility, in spite of the overcrowding. What do we do to accommodate those people, then?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We develop the programme that I announced last week. We develop our nursing home programme.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, you do have nursing homes in the community but there still seems to be the need for something between the nursing home and Riverview Hospital.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our hope is, and I think I am right on this, that the level of care, when our nursing home programme is under way, from a medical and nursing point of view, will be higher than very many of the so-called nursing homes that are about the province today.

Mr. B. Newman: So you can foresee then within a short period of time—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: A degree of shift.

Mr. B. Newman: Right. A facility in most communities that could take care of just the problem that we are confronted with in the

city, where there is a shortage of chronic-care facilities but some of the patients now in chronic care could be discharged to a certain degree of nursing home care.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. B. Newman: Right. I thank you, Mr. Minister, that is quite all right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I asked the minister a couple of weeks ago about possible freeze in the admittance of patients in the Ontario Hospitals into the homes for special care, and brought it up again in my leadoff speech. I wonder if he has an answer to that question now? Are these patients being admitted from the Ontario Hospitals to the homes for special care, or has it stopped?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it has levelled off. I do not know, it has to be kept in some kind of balance.

Mr. Ferrier: Has there been a directive from the department to the Ontario Hospitals suggesting that patients not be moved to homes for special care?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but I do not think we are increasing the burden on the homes for special care.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, I have been informed that in certain hospitals the progression through the treatment wards is being held up because people in the last ward that should and could logically go to homes for special care cannot be discharged to those homes. As a result, they are being kept in the Ontario Hospitals and the whole programme down the line is being delayed. People who should be admitted are not being admitted, and there is a great deal of concern among the staff of some of these hospitals.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You state a problem that exists. I really am not prepared to go much farther than to recognize the situation exists. How to overcome it, Dr. Charron? But from a minister's point of view, what to do? What, with dollars, can we do—

Dr. Charron: I think that in the homes for special care programme, we have about 5,500 who are receiving nursing home level of care; about 1,600 getting residential level of care in a residence, just being looked after as they would in a domicile. The development of nursing homes, that is, the nursing home programme, should permit a larger number

of people who might be eligible for this level of care to move from our mental hospitals or our Ontario Hospitals into the system.

Mr. Ferrier: Are you saying that as of a few weeks ago, there was no directive went out to the Ontario Hospitals to say that they were not to discharge any more patients to these homes for special care? That this was just a normal kind of situation where in the homes for special care all the beds were filled up, and this was sort of the reason for the—

Dr. Charron: I think I commented on that aspect.

Mr. Ferrier: I am a bit concerned because I understand that there has been direction given to some of the Ontario Hospitals to cut down on the number of patients going to the homes for special care. It has been a matter of real concern; it has sort of gummed up the works.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have reached the limit.

Mr. Ferrier: This is what you are saying; that there are no more beds available for these patients in any significant number?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But as Dr. Charron said, to a degree—and we cannot assess it at the moment, of course—our nursing home programme will help alleviate some of that pressure.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: I wish to discuss a couple of points. We were discussing special care—I may have missed it; you may rule me out of order, Mr. Chairman. I had asked earlier whether or not a geriatric centre is being set up as had been recommended by the select committee on aging. I had occasion to be in Regina in 1964 on a convention and I had the pleasure of inspecting their geriatric hospital. It was serving two purposes; it was a combination old age home and a research centre.

Now, we have some fine hospitals to look after our senior citizens here. I guess the Baycrest probably is the best-known one. But I do not know of any institution of this nature that has been set up by this government and totally financed by this government as a means of studying the problem of aging. Is there one that I do not know about?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: A single centre? No, not that I know of.

Dr. Charron: Most of these geriatric services are combined with rehabilitation arrangement or set up in chronic hospitals. The member gave an example, Baycrest. I know the situation in Regina. It is a special type of development. I do not think we would probably set up the same type of thing in isolation. We think probably, that from our point of view when you get these types of services, with people skilled in the field of geriatrics in relationship to your whole system, you probably end up with a better development than having a special type of institution to do the job. That is our philosophy; they have a somewhat different philosophy.

Mr. Ben: I was looking at it not as a centre for the aged to go to as a retirement home, but as a sort of research centre where you can concentrate on in-depth research and try to get the best people available—that is not a nice way of putting it; almost using research as dealing with guinea pigs—to try to learn as much as we can in as short a time as we can.

I appreciate that combining the two has certain advantages but it does not, to my layman's mind, produce results as quickly as if you did concentrate on the study of the problem with special people in the field, men and women of high calibre.

I was only suggesting the establishment of such a centre so that we can really make a concentrated study of the thing.

What I wanted to discuss, which is also under this vote, Mr. Chairman—I want to get on VD for a while. This seems to be a problem.

Mr. Chairman: Go ahead.

Mr. Ben: Every time one picks up a newspaper, there is either an article or series of articles on the problems of VD and almost every newspaper states that it is of epidemic proportions. One newspaper said we were going to have 150,000 cases this year in Canada. I believe last year they recorded 8,386 cases of gonorrhoea in Ontario and 970 of syphilis, for a total of 9,356 cases. That may or may not be right but I read it out of an article.

It also stated that there are, perhaps, for each case reported, three to four that were not reported, which would give us anywhere around 30,000 cases in Ontario. We are spending the sum of \$106,500—I should not say we are spending, let us put it this way—the department under this item is voting

or asking us to vote \$106,500. Now, that works out to barely over \$3 per case, which is a small amount.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not sure that that is the total. Just a minute, I will check on it.

Mr. Ben: Well, while he is checking, may I continue, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The \$106,500 that you were reading is for grants to clinics.

Mr. Ben: I see. At any rate, many people always associate venereal disease with the sexual act itself although—

Mr. Ferrier: How else?

Mr. Ben: My friend behind me asks "How else?" They tell a little joke about two young boys sitting on a curb and one says to the other, "How old are you, Jack?" Jack says "I'm 7; how old are you, Peter?" Peter says, "I don't know how old I am." Jack says, "What do you mean, you don't know how old you are?" "Well, I don't know how old I am." So Jack says to him, "Tell me, do girls bother you?" He says, "No, girls don't bother me." He says, "Then you are 4."

The reason I tell this little anecdote is because Dr. C. S. Nichol a British health consultant, was commenting in a report recently that a 5-year-old boy in the United States had undergone treatment for venereal disease after a 9-year-old girl had infected him. So maybe we should not tell these jokes.

What he was trying to do was stress that very few people know that you do not have to have intercourse itself to catch venereal disease but that it can be spread by close contact of the genital organs. Maybe youngsters may not know this and they figure because they are engaging in nothing but heavy petting they are going to escape any risk of infection of a venereal disease.

At any rate, I am waiting for the figure because I thought this \$106,500 vote, in view of the severity of the problem that is facing us, with reference to this disease, warranted an expenditure of considerably more than that. Do you have the new figure?

Dr. Charron: Mr. Chairman, the vote that is identified in the estimates is only for the support of clinics. In addition to that there is a venereal disease section in the department and we have representatives from that section in the department who can discuss any aspect of the subject that you wish.

Mr. Ben: How many clinics are there?

Dr. R. Persad (Special Health Services Branch): There are 10 venereal disease clinics in the province and three new ones have just been approved.

Mr. Ben: Do you have any clinics to which people can go for what was called during the war early preventive treatment?

Dr. Persad: Prophylactics and investigation?

Mr. Ben: I guess perhaps—you look a little young—you do not recall the war?

Dr. Persad: No.

Mr. Ben: But during the war, for the benefit of the troops in the service, they had spread throughout all major centres what they called EPT centres—early preventive treatment centres—where a serviceman after intercourse was supposed to go to obtain prophylactics or whatever it was to prevent that. You do not have any of those.

Dr. Persad: No.

Mr. Ben: In view of the problem that is facing us, have you given any consideration to opening such clinics or setting up such clinics in hospital emergency wards, to which people can go if they fear that they may have just been infected?

Dr. Persad: May I point out that we do not really run the clinics. These are really hospital clinics and we merely finance them and supervise them.

Mr. Ben: Fine. Thank you for that answer. But that still does not answer my question. Has the department given any consideration to having hospitals set up in their emergency wards, or as part of their emergency service, these early preventive treatment centres so that a person who has just had intercourse and feels he may have just been infected, can go to them and sort of nip it in the bud.

Dr. Persad: No.

Mr. Ben: You do not?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They could be used but they are just not used.

Mr. Ben: Do they have the facilities if a person wanted to use them?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think so.

Mr. Ben: Some say no, Mr. Minister—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know.

Mr. Ben: You are advised to say no.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I still think it is a pretty broad word. I do not know. Why do you not approach one of these hospitals in their clinics and see if it really is practical?

Mr. Ben: I do not get myself in a position where I have to use it.

Mr. Pilkey: That is a practical application.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, does your department give out these Thayer-Martin Selected Media test kits?

Dr. Persad: What is the question?

Mr. Ben: Does your department distribute the Thayer-Martin Selected Media test kits? Evidently you cannot test for gonorrhoea immediately. You have to have a culture and have it sent to a laboratory. In Philadelphia they are producing these kits in large numbers and they are distributing them to doctors. A doctor takes a smear and then he mails these kits to a laboratory, and now they even have what they call a transgrow version of this same Thayer-Martin selected media kit.

In the transgrow kit you can take this smear and immediately mail it so that the culture develops in transit—that is where they get the word, transgrow. They are distributing these to doctors. Doctors can immediately take a smear test and send it to a laboratory and the culture is developing while it is in transit. Do you have those?

Dr. Persad: We do not have those, but this whole matter is still under study, even this transgrow media you speak about.

Mr. Ben: It is under study? You do not have these kits here?

Dr. Persad: No.

Mr. Ben: I see. You say it is under study.

Dr. Persad: In the United States, or where the member thinks they have come from. They are under study in the States.

Mr. Ben: Everything is always under study and I am not saying that facetiously.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You are describing an American experiment, I believe.

Dr. Persad: I was recently present at an international symposium on venereal disease held in St. Louis in the United States, and

this was discussed there and they themselves are still having some study.

Mr. Ben: This matter is being studied then. All right. You gave me the figure for the total. Your department is going to give me the figure for the total expenditures. While the doctor is looking for it, will somebody tell me how many of these clinics are in Toronto?

Dr. Persad: Five of the clinics are in Toronto.

Mr. Ben: Five in Toronto? Must be a bad place. Number one on the poll.

An hon. member: You should start a moral crusade.

Mr. Ben: I hope you have got a moral crusade to—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is about the population ratio. Five out of 13.

Mr. Ben: Five out of 10.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Three more developing.

Mr. Ben: Do you have the figure for the—

Dr. Charron: We will give you the figure in just a moment.

Mr. Ben: All right. Fine, doctor. Now let somebody else go.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): I would like to go back, Mr. Chairman, to the homes for special care and for home care assistance. When Dr. Charron gave the number of beds, I wonder if he would be kind enough to give the number that were there this time last year, or in the previous estimates?

Dr. Charron: Five thousand, three hundred last year and just over 5,500 this year in the nursing home level.

Mrs. M. Renwick: And what were the numbers in home care?

Dr. Charron: The same—1,600 and 1,600.

Mrs. M. Renwick: The same number of beds?

Dr. Charron: Yes.

Mrs. M. Renwick: I wonder if I could inquire as to how many of these are in the

borough of Scarborough, if I could be a little parochial, Mr. Chairman?

Dr. Charron: I think that we would have to get that information for you, Mrs. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Very well.

Dr. Charron: Could we get it for you and let you have it?

Mrs. M. Renwick: Yes. That would be satisfactory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Young: On that same matter of homes for special care, the estimate is up about \$3½ million from last year and yet we are running into this roadblock of transfer. Does this mean that costs in the homes for special care have gone up quite dramatically? Otherwise it would seem that we could handle more patients than last year if we are budgeting \$3½ million more than we did last year. The figure this year is \$24,995,000—last year it was \$21,647,000.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Last year it was \$24,535,000.

Mr. Young: Twenty-four million?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Actual 1970-1971 in your right-hand column—

Mr. Young: Oh, the actual.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —was \$24,535,000.

Mr. Young: The estimate shows \$21,647,000 but the actual is \$24 million?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Twenty-four, five thirty five.

Mr. Young: So it was higher than the estimate then, plus—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not have the estimate figure.

Mr. Young: The estimate is \$21,647,000.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The previous year was \$21,508,000 so it moved from \$21,508,000 to \$24,535,000 to \$24,995,000.

Mr. Young: So, in other words you are budgeting this year for just about the same as the actual last year, with no expansion and some increase in price, so that would mean that because you are setting a ceiling here that you are having to back up a little.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is a small increment there, but that is not based on us paying a higher price.

Mr. Young: There is not that much room in that increment then for many more patients?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Young: Or even, I would think, for the same number of patients which I presume will cost a bit more this year than last year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is all.

Mr. Young: This is what is happening, so that any advance would have to mean more than \$24 million or \$25 million, and yet this is where the department is setting this. Now, is there a reason why the department is holding a line at last years figure or slightly above it? The need is certainly there and what is happening is a backup so that it would seem that we should be budgeting for far more than that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There are occasions when we cannot sell our needs.

Mr. Young: So this is a matter of a problem of financing within the budgeting of the Treasury Board then?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We would want more, but perhaps we can accept it to the extent that in 10 or 11 months we will have a broader programme under our nursing home programme itself. How far that will go, as I said to Mr. Ferrier, I do not know but it should move in the direction of taking some of the pressure off.

Mr. Young: So in the meantime we are going to have the overcrowding in both facilities then?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I believe so.

Mr. Young: It seems a strange place to cut down and to cut back.

Mrs. M. Renwick: And when we have a shortage of beds in the hospitals.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes! I would just like to pick up on this venereal disease control vote again. I know that it is a very serious problem and, as Mr. Ben said, as you read in the paper, it seems to be hitting the headlines that various people are really pointing out the growing crisis.

Now, you had the report come in and I understand that you have implemented some of the recommendations and the others are being implemented.

Dr. G. E. Large (Special Health Services Branch): Right.

Mr. Ferrier: There two or three things that I would like to follow through from that.

There is supposed to be more informal reporting from the individual physician who has a person come in with this disease and his getting in touch with the medical officer of health. He can phone or notify him and the medical officer of health, under this new system, is to fill out the form and do the contacting of the people who have been in contact with this particular person. Has this actually been put into effect and is it having any effect in locating people who have been contacted with the particular person and getting treatment for them?

Dr. Large: Mr. Chairman, the reporting of cases locally will await change in legislation and this is going to be incorporated with the presentation of the new Health Protections Act at that same time. The medical officers of health are still being requested, even without the advent of local reporting, to do interviewing for physicians on request; they have had staff trained to do this, so they are not waiting for the reporting to become local. The cases are being interviewed prior to that.

Mr. Ferrier: Have the medical officers of health taken the initiative and told physicians in the various areas that they are prepared to do this now?

Dr. Large: Not in all areas yet, but it would depend on how well their contacts have been with particular hospital groups. But there have been physician seminars developed—one has been held in Kingston and four have been planned—and this is exactly what the message is there, as well as a clinical discussion, a laboratory discussion in indications and demonstrations of the techniques of contact interviewing and this kind of thing.

Mr. Ferrier: In view of the epidemic proportions that this is in now, I think anything that can be done to state this type of contact with the doctors to try to cut down in this is warranted.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What are your dates for the next four seminars?

Dr. Large: The one at Queen's University was held on May 5. The other ones are June 2 at the University of Western Ontario, June 9 at Ottawa and June 16 at McMaster. The others in Toronto have no dates, but they are moving—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are moving ahead with them.

Dr. Large: —ahead with them as quickly as it can be done.

Mr. Ferrier: Another recommendation, as I understand it, was that people be trained to make the contacts; once they had been informed that so-and-so was involved here, that there would be people given special education and training to carry out—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Contact interviewing?

Mr. Ferrier: Yes. Has this been done?

Dr. Large: This is what we call the epidemiologist, the nurse epidemiologist. We have added one to our own department and we have had a course arranged at which 41 nurse epidemiologists, either in fact or upcoming from local health services, were taken to Detroit and had a one-week intensive course under the auspices of the United States Public Health Service, which has had this course for years in just this indoctrination in nurse interviewing of patients and, of course, it will be done with the request and permission of the doctor and the patient. This is what they will do now in their own local areas—go back and train more. We will have one on our staff. We have one now and we will be getting another; they will be reinforcing this interviewing technique development throughout the province.

Mr. Ferrier: By the way of education for school children and so forth, what is being done? Do I understand properly that school boards have to make a decision so that this kind of information or this kind of education can be given to children? I read in the paper—I am not sure whether it was North York or another school board—but they said the material that was being used was something that you would sort of give to somebody's maiden aunt, that it was sort of so naïve or something so that it was not very effective.

How much education is being done among young people and what kind of educational material is being used? Is it being done by public health nurses, by special recruits, or by teachers?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have a programme ready to go and Mr. Bain can describe it in more detail.

Mr. J. W. F. Bain (Communications Branch): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the moment we have a special project group developing a wide spectrum of educational and informational material on venereal diseases. We have been working with The Department of Education and various school boards in discussing specifically the school requirements, and it is our intention to have available by September 1 a wide multimedia approach for the schools on venereal disease.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have a public programme too.

Mr. Bain: Yes, we do. The public programme once again will be multimedia and will include such standard things as pamphlets and brochures and radio and television public service announcements. Subject to availability of equipment, we have set a target date of June 15 for the implementation of a telephone service in the Metro Toronto area for the location and times of clinics.

Mr. Ferrier: Good. Are you finding any resistance from school boards or such, or are they willing to co-operate almost 100 per cent?

Mr. Bain: Mr. Chairman, we are finding the school boards generally very receptive to our discussions. At any rate, at this point we have not got to the point, quite frankly, of discussing implementation of programmes in the schools.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are enthusiastic about the input of this at this stage. How much they will use of what to begin with, we do not know yet.

Mr. Ferrier: What age group are you primarily aiming at? High school students or before that?

Mr. Bain: Frankly, it was our intention, in the remaining few months before September 1 to concentrate on materials that would be of most use in the high schools. However, we are finding that some school boards are requesting materials for children in grades 7 and 8, and this is an area that we will attempt to cover in the next few months. But, frankly, we do not expect to have anything available in depth for those grades for this September.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, on this vote, homes for special care, under the new nursing

programme which you announced, Mr. Minister, you said that patients in these nursing homes would have to pay the first \$3.50. We have a lot of homes across the province operated by the county through The Department of Social and Family Services. We have a large number of people who are paying their way in these homes.

When the new nursing home programme comes in, will the patients in these homes have to move out of the county homes into a nursing home or will they be covered in the home operated by the county?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, this is a question of integration of course between The Department of Social and Family Services and this department. I do not see any great problems if we remember that nursing home programme relates to just that—it is not a custodian programme—whereas the essence or what should be the essence of the homes for the aged programme is not narrowed down to the nursing or medical function. Could you amplify how far you have gone with regard to the balance between the two services?

Dr. Charron: Yes, Mr. Minister. When the programme was being planned, it was planned in conjunction with The Department of Social and Family Services so that they could identify the extent to which they were actually providing a nursing home level of care in various institutions that come under their direction. The details of these arrangements will be worked out, now that the policy relating to the programme has been established.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Would this be a point, Mr. Chairman, where I could read into the record the statistics that Mr. Ben wanted on VD costs and our spending? It is a little before 6 and—

Mr. Chairman: Yes, that is okay.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Salaries, maintenance, etc., \$120,000; grants in total, \$140,000; OHSIP clinic fees, medical, \$200,000—for a total of \$460,000, with the cost of laboratory work not included.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gaunt.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, it is just a matter of clarification really with respect to the ceiling that the department imposed under the homes for special care programme. Now I understand there were ceilings imposed, but I am not sure exactly how the distribution took place. Was it done on the basis of so many per Ontario

Hospital area divided by the number of nursing homes in that area? I am not quite clear as to how the distribution actually took place.

Dr. Blake: It is a combination of two things, the availability of the beds and the need of the particular hospital. These were both taken into consideration in the placement in co-operation with the hospitals.

Mr. Gaunt: Right. So, for instance, if the nursing home in a particular area had, let us say, for example, 10 OHSC patients or homes for special care patients, then was that nursing home more or less frozen? In other words, if one of those patients happened to pass away would that bed not be replaced, would a replacement not be given from the Ontario Hospital under the homes for special care programme? How does that work? I am not quite clear as to how it does.

Dr. Blake: Usually if there was a suitable placement who would fit into that home properly, then the patient would be replaced, but this may not always be possible.

Mr. Gaunt: Right. So you have a certain limit in an area? Let us say you have a ceiling of 1,000 homes for special care patients in an area and, say, two or three happen to pass on in a certain nursing home, that would not necessarily mean that replacements would be put into that nursing home? It would be a distribution across that area? Is that right?

Dr. Blake: Yes; and we try to place patients near their relatives where it is convenient for the family to visit. There are many factors taken into consideration when patients are placed this way, and they may or may not be replaced in that home if they die or need to go back to hospital.

Mr. Gaunt: This is worked out generally with the field worker in the Ontario Hospital setting? Is this so?

Dr. Blake: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 4 of vote 702 carry?

Item 4, vote 702, agreed to.

Item 5—environmental health services. Shall it carry?

Item 5, vote 702, agreed to.

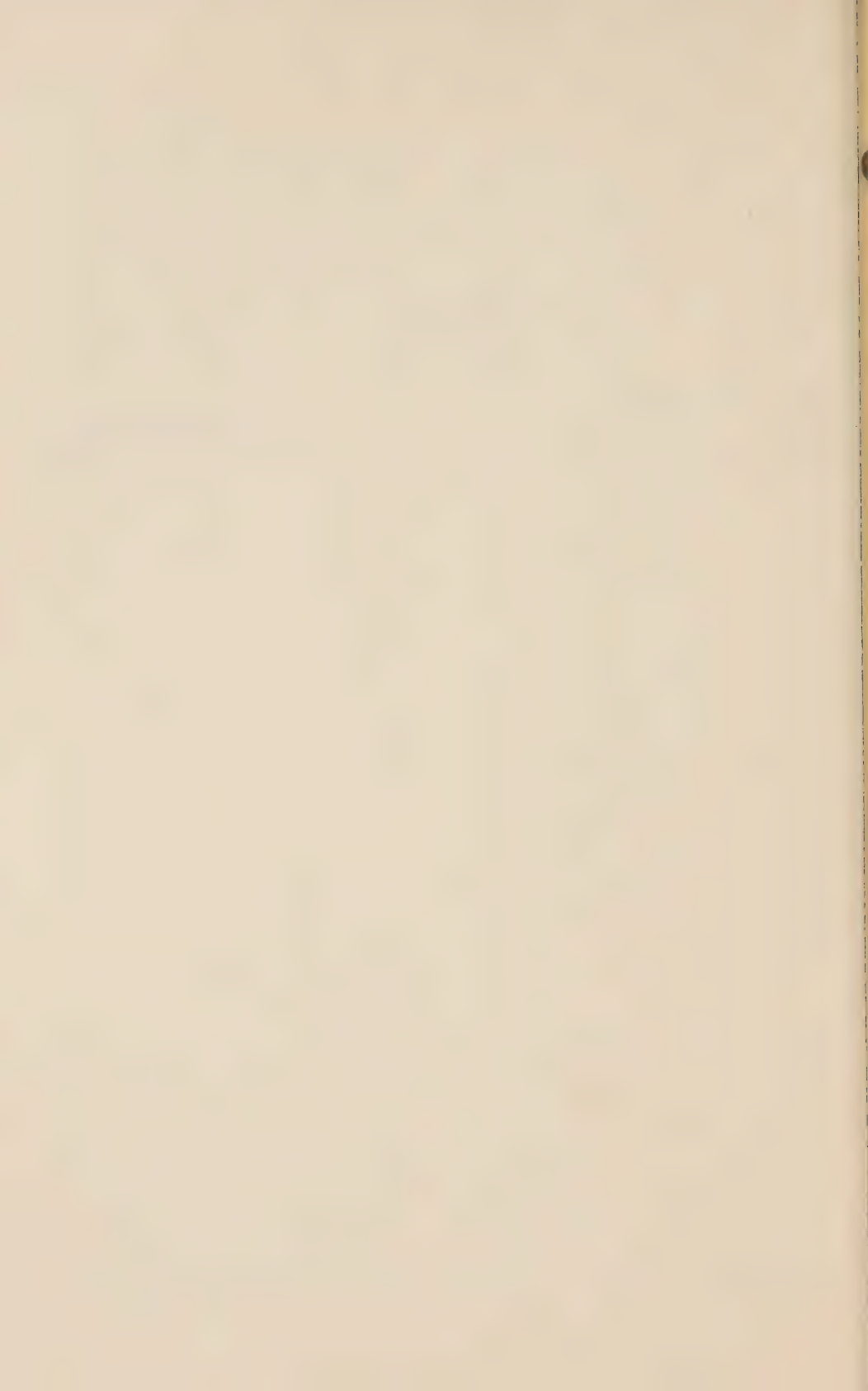
Vote 702 agreed to.

It being 5:55 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

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OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

JUN 1 1971 Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Thursday, May 20, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1971

The committee resumed at 8:10 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

Mr. Chairman: Order please. We are now on mental health programme, vote 703. Mr. Shulman is the first.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Mr. Chairman, may I raise a point here? I sat in and out of here this afternoon waiting for environmental health services to come up, and I guess apparently it had passed at about seven minutes to 6 earlier this afternoon, and I do not recall seeing Dr. Mastromatteo or Dr. Sutherland in the group here today. Were they here?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, they were all here.

Mr. Haggerty: Where were they sitting?

An hon. member: Back there.

Mr. Haggerty: Back there? Oh, I was looking for them up here.

Mr. Chairman: I am sorry, the vote carried, and we are now on vote 703. Mr. Shulman.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Mr. Chairman, there are several matters I would like to bring up here. The first one: I would like to ask the minister about a letter that was sent out on May 18, the day before yesterday, by the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital, and it is a printed letter so obviously it has gone out to a number of people, and it says:

Dear Mrs. So-and-So:

Due to recent budgetary restrictions affecting our pharmacy, we are no longer in a position to supply free drugs to the public outside of our own catchment area.

May I ask the minister what is happening? Are you cutting down on free drugs to the indigent?

Dr. H. W. Henderson (Mental Health Division): Mr. Chairman, there is basically no change in the policy on the use of drugs. We

are attempting to control costs wherever we can, but the programme of providing drugs to people who have formerly been patients in the hospital is being continued.

Mr. Shulman: This patient was not a patient in the hospital, she was an outpatient, and fortunately by the use of these drugs she had been able to stay out of the hospital. Now if she cannot get the drugs any more, do we economize by putting her in the hospital so she can get the drugs free?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the programme did restrict providing drugs for people on an outpatient basis, it was not just for people who were admitted. We provide drugs for outpatients as well. In an individual instance I would be very happy to look into it. There is no basic change in policy to account for this.

Mr. Shulman: Then let me ask you—I am sorry, your name is?

Dr. Henderson: Dr. Henderson.

Mr. Shulman: Dr. Henderson, is it not the policy now and in recent months that the Ontario Hospital on Queen Street does no longer supply any drugs through the outpatient service to patients who have not been in the hospital? I have a letter here saying that is their new policy, that dates back some months.

Dr. Henderson: This, to my knowledge, is not a policy, Mr. Chairman. We are continuing to provide drugs to outpatients in all the hospitals.

Mr. Shulman: Perhaps I am being dense. Would the doctor explain to me what the meaning of this sentence is in this letter, today's letter: "Due to recent budgetary restrictions affecting our pharmacy we are no longer in a position to supply free drugs." Does this not mean what it says?

Dr. Henderson: If I could see the rest of the letter, Mr. Chairman, I might be able to put it into appropriate context. I cannot understand that.

Well, what is happening here is to try and adjust the provision of drugs for this individual, Mr. Chairman, to the hospital serving the catchment area in which this patient lives. All the letter is suggesting is that they mail the prescriptions to the Queen Street Mental Health Centre for them to be filled, rather than for them to mail them to the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital. It does not say they are not going to be paid.

Mr. Shulman: Can the doctor explain to me, what is the point of having a patient who has been attending the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital—

Mr. Chairman: You will have to address yourself through the Chair to the minister and then the minister can answer.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, and through the minister to the doctor: Can someone explain to me what is the point in having a patient who has been going for years to a hospital—I presume they still continue to go there as an outpatient—have them give her prescriptions which she then mails to another hospital to be filled? I just do not understand.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the intent of all the hospitals and their programmes is to relate as closely as they can to a catchment area, and to the physicians and other people who are in that catchment area. I would assume, because of the way the letter is directed, that this person is living in the area that is served by the Queen Street Mental Health Centre, and there is nothing to indicate that she is now continuing to attend either hospital. She is getting drugs filled through the family doctor, who sends in prescriptions for her. In the event that she need go to a hospital again in all probability they would direct her to the Queen Street Mental Health Centre, and they are merely making this arrangement.

Mr. Shulman: There is no budgetary restriction then, other than areas. Is that correct or is that wrong?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, there has been no budgetary restriction imposed, particularly on pharmacy, or change in the policy for providing drugs as I have indicated.

Mr. Shulman: All right, thank you, it just says there is. Let me go on to another matter which perhaps you can explain to me.

What I am referring to now is the slowness in the mental health centres in doing

things. I have a letter here, this refers to a specific patient in the mental health centre in Penetanguishene, who for family reasons was to have been transferred to a psychiatric hospital near home. I have a letter here dated January 26, 1971, signed by Dr. Boyd, the superintendent at the mental health centre, which reads as follows:

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Your letter of January 25 has been received. We are hopeful that it may be possible to transfer you to a psychiatric hospital nearer home. If this were not possible we will reconsider the advisability of moving you to our own regional division

Yours sincerely,

Dr. B. A. Boyd.

Now this is back on January 26. Weeks went by and the patient could not get anywhere and finally he contacted me and I wrote Dr. Boyd, and I got a letter back just this week, which reads as follows:

Dear Mr. Shulman:

Re Mr. Fisher.

Upon receipt of your letter of April 23 I have been inquiring into the circumstances regarding this patient's possible transfer to the Whitby Psychiatric Hospital. This matter is still under consideration and I cannot say whether or when the transfer will be effected.

Now I ask the minister—February, March, April, May—that is four months, and they are still considering something which apparently they had decided back in January. What is the bureaucratic foul-up that is taking place up in Penetang, or is it in the higher level of the department?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): I have no idea.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, I have no specific information on this, and we would be glad to make inquiries into it, but it might quite possibly be that the individual who was to be transferred is not, in the opinion of the staff who are attending him now, ready to make such a move. I do not know that, but I think that possibility should be kept in mind. Because to my way of thinking it would be the most likely explanation.

Mr. Shulman: This is a patient who has been in there 18 years, just to set the record straight, and this letter dated January 26 says he is ready to be transferred. Now about four months later on May 7, Dr. Boyd

again writes, "this matter is still under consideration." All right, that one does not mean what it says either, I guess.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, would it be possible to have the man's name so we can—

Mr. Shulman: Yes, the man's name is Donald Fisher.

Dr. Henderson: Donald Fisher.

Mr. Shulman: Next, I want to ask the minister about the matter I brought up in the House the other day, where five students were dismissed from the RNA course at the St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital just two weeks before their course was due to be completed.

I understand all of these students obtained passing or better grades in both theory and actual practice, and yet the minister wrote me that the students were not functioning effectively. Perhaps you can tell me how one does not function effectively if one is getting passing or better grades?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have read the report. Perhaps you could deal with it, doctor.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the information on this situation is that the students had been under review on a number of occasions previously. They had not completed their training at the time of their resignations. They had three weeks of lectures and six weeks of clinical work to complete before they would be even eligible to write the examinations. During the training all the trainees are evaluated on a monthly basis by a progress committee, and additional counselling is carried out where this is considered to be useful and helpful.

Each of the trainees who is involved in this situation had received considerable individual counselling in an effort to improve her overall performance. But in the opinion of those responsible for the course they were not able to handle either the theoretical or the clinical areas and consequently would not meet the standards of nursing care that were required. For that reason the management advisory committee of their training programme did not recommend them to the College of Nurses, which is a prerequisite for their being allowed to write the RNA examination.

Mr. Shulman: Well, I find this most intriguing, Mr. Chairman. Is it not true that they had passed their examinations in both theory

and actual practice, each and every student? And how does one decide if they pass the examinations; do you then say, "They may have passed their examinations, but—" for reasons which still you have not told us—"they are not going to be suitable. We are not going to let them write the final exams"?

Dr. Henderson: They had not written the final exams and they were not considered—

Mr. Shulman: No, of course, they had not. You did not let them write the final exams. But they had written the other exams and they had passed them. Then you called them all in and asked for their resignations or demanded their resignations.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the information we have from the hospital is that the students were not performing satisfactorily in the early period and had been given special assistance to help them. Only after this was it considered necessary and useful that they be advised that they were not likely to complete these examinations successfully.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Chairman, I suggest to you that is a very inadequate and unsatisfactory answer.

It is as though a student were in medicine and passed his exams—his theory, and his practical exams—and then the professor called him in and said, "Well, you may have passed the exams but you are not satisfactory anyway, so we are not going to let you write the final with three weeks to go of the course—get out."

You are not giving any explanation; you are just saying they are not satisfactory. Not satisfactory in what way? If a man is taking a course and passes his examinations, surely he is satisfactory? How can you take him three weeks before the final and say, "You are not even going to be allowed to write the final exam"? It is improper, inhuman.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But for all kinds of work they were inadequate. We have spent a lot of time counselling them in a futile way.

Mr. Shulman: But obviously they were adequate. They were passing the examinations. Does that not mean anything?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Adequacy is more than that, I think.

Mr. Shulman: I am intrigued to learn. What does adequacy mean? If one passes the theory

exams, one passes the practical exams, what other hurdle does one have to cross?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Henderson, will you give the basis of judgement that called for this exercise?

Dr. Henderson: I have not got the details on this but I know that the students are evaluated, monthly as is indicated. I do not have the information to verify what is now being stated, that they had passed all their exams. This, I agree, would be hard to understand when this recommendation was made subsequently. The initial opinion that was given before was that they had completed all of their course and were then asked to resign, but they had not finished their course.

Mr. Shulman: Well, they had just three weeks left out of the nine-month course.

Dr. Henderson: The other thing I should point out, Mr. Chairman, is that the trainees, at the time that these decisions were made, were offered the opportunity to meet with the hospital's management advisory committee and again review this situation. None of them elected to do this and voluntarily submitted their resignations.

Mr. Shulman: Well, now, just a minute—that just is not so. They did not voluntarily submit their resignations. They said, "We were told to submit our resignations or be thrown out." Is that voluntary?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the information I have from the hospital is that the students voluntarily submitted their resignations.

Mr. Shulman: It was voluntary inasmuch as they were not hit with a lead pipe to have it done; if that is what voluntary is.

I am going to have to open up the whole can of worms since we cannot seem to get anywhere. With some reluctance, Mr. Chairman, I am going to go into the matter of examinations and evaluations and I am going to leave out certain matters which the minister is aware of for reasons which will be obvious.

I am not at all satisfied with the way that students are being judged, or staff being handled in the mental hospitals, and as a specific example I intend to go to Whitby. To give an idea of the value of the exams and how exams are rigged the senior nursing students were given an examination in

leadership a few weeks ago. Twenty-one students were given the examination; 17 failed.

The head of the department was quite upset about this and decided that though at the first examination several people marked the papers, with the second examination she said she would mark the papers herself. She re-examined them in private and suddenly all 21 passed. Let me say of the 21 who were examined in the first place, of the 17 who failed, the marks ranged down to 28 per cent.

Now no one has seen this second examination, but somehow they have all passed. Furthermore, the staff became so demoralized at Whitby as a result of this and other incidents which, perhaps, I will go into, that there has been a parade here to the Parliament Buildings of various members of the staff, extremely upset with the way the students are being examined, the way the staff is being handled.

It reached the extreme yesterday morning when each member of the nursing staff was called into the office of the superintendent to have a private inquisition—that is the only way I can describe it—as to who was letting the information out of the hospital, on what was going wrong. I do know that at least four of the staff broke down as a result of this interview because it was done in such a horrendous way.

The staff have had meetings to discuss whether or not they should all walk out. I have an 11-page statement from the staff here stating things that are wrong and, frankly, I find it too upsetting to even bring into the hearing here but some urgent action has to be taken. The Civil Service Association of Ontario was so upset about what was taking place in Whitby that they sent a classification officer down to do an investigation on his own. His report is dated March 16, 1971, and I quote a portion of it:

Fear dominates the upward reporting relationship. It is incredible that—

and I will leave out the office of the person involved here:

—could be permitted to subject public servants to such pressure tactics and unfair treatment contrary to all human rights codes and The Public Service Act for reasons known only to the department.

This is signed by P. B. Bolissian, classification officer of the Civil Service Association of Ontario.

I have another letter here which is signed by the general manager of the Civil Service

Association, Mr. Harold Bowen, in which he says:

I am quite satisfied that Mr. Bolissian's report is factual. Any indication that the association is not supporting this report is entirely unfounded. You may make such use of this letter as you see fit.

The letter was sent to the president of the branch 0012132 of the Civil Service Association. Someone in the association saw fit to send it to me.

Perhaps before I say any more I should ask if the minister or his staff are doing anything about it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I know we have a personnel problem in Whitby. And I know that the personnel branch is involved in it on a day-to-day basis, yesterday and today. What kind of detail do you want?

Mr. Shulman: I want something to happen so you do not have your whole staff walk out on you, which may very well happen tomorrow, because I do know that you sent a man down there. I do know he sat through these hearings which took place yesterday and today, but he did not open his mouth.

He sat there and all this went on; the nurses went in and came out crying, and he just sat there. I came to you with this before, as you know, and I gave you all the details and I know it is difficult for you to move quickly in a situation like this. It is not like a private company where you can step in and move and do this, that and the other. But you have got to do something fairly quickly. I suggest that the very least you can do is offer the superintendent and the head of the nursing school a paid holiday at the present time and send someone else in there to bring control into the situation, or the whole place is going to blow up on you.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As I told you, we moved and are moving exactly as one would wish; I mean through the departmental personnel office. The interviews are not completed. I cannot control whether or not anyone walks off the job tomorrow. All I know is that our people are there. Whether or not there are interviews that make them cry I cannot say.

Mr. Shulman: But your people are not doing the interviewing, this is the problem. Your people are doing nothing down there. You have sent a man down there and he has not done a damn thing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I understand he is listening.

Mr. Shulman: Yes, he is listening but when something obviously wrong is taking place he is not doing anything. This is the problem. Let me explain. This all started when a group of the students wanted me to speak to them, as you know. This was vetoed, as you know.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I do not know that.

Mr. Shulman: All right, as you do not know, it was vetoed.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I know that it was alleged that it was vetoed.

Mr. Shulman: All right, let us go into that in a little further detail then.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Anyway, you know my feelings on this. As far as I am concerned you can talk in Moosonee.

Mr. Shulman: I know, but I am trying to push you into doing something tonight.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I cannot do it tonight; the interviews are still going on.

Mr. Shulman: Well, just a minute. I want to tell you the type of thing—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There has to be an orderly process in this kind of thing.

Mr. Shulman: But it is not an orderly situation. It is breaking apart underneath you. You cannot wait to have an orderly process when the whole staff is becoming demoralized

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The interviews were taking place today. I suppose they will be taking place tomorrow, will they? When they are completed we will have an exercise in judgement by the people in my department who are charged with that responsibility. We are not sitting back saying—

Mr. Shulman: Well, the complaint at the moment, the immediate complaint of the staff, is that the interviews are being done by the very people whom the complaint is about. So here we have Mr. X—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think that is so.

Mr. Shulman: I beg your pardon, it is so, and I can tell you it is so. I had four members of the staff here yesterday telling me it was so.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am advised not.

Mr. Shulman: You may be so advised but that is the situation. These people are being interviewed individually. They are being interviewed by the superintendent of the hospital and by the head of the nursing staff. Your man is sitting in there and not saying anything. Surely if there are interviews to be done then it should be done by someone from outside the hospital. How do you expect to get an impartial opinion from a man whose conduct is being questioned? Or from a woman whose conduct is being questioned?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will ask the chief of personnel to speak to this.

Mr. R. Oss (Personnel Branch): Mr. Chairman, the situation Dr. Shulman is referring to is quite familiar to us and has been in existence for a little while.

The particular interviews which have been mentioned today are conducted by the administrator of the hospital, who is responsible for the operation of the institution, and he informed me about two days ago that about 27 employees of the nursing education department had asked to be interviewed by him as the head of the institution so they could bring certain matters to his attention. The administrator readily acceded to their request.

In addition, it was also decided, again at the request of the employees concerned, and again acceded to by the administrator, that there should be present at those interviews an observer from the personnel branch. I want to emphasize here that the administrator is responsible for the administration of the hospital. If there are staff problems or any other problems it is up to him to gather the evidence, review the facts, and then make a decision.

I also would like to point out at this time all employees in this department, or in the public service of Ontario, are protected under the grievance regulations. If any employee for whatever reason feels he or she is not being properly treated, he or she is completely entitled under the regulations to file a grievance, be it relating to terms of employment, working conditions, or the classification of his or her position. So I want to make it quite clear that the matter is under control; it is not a matter which is not receiving any attention, and to the best of my knowledge when the current interviews which took place at the request of the employees concerned are completed, and the report is prepared, then the responsible officials, both in the institution at Whitby, as well as at the department level,

can review the facts and make whatever decisions need to be done.

Mr. Shulman: All right. Well, let us take that apart. First of all it is quite true 27 members of the staff were dissatisfied and asked for an interview. They asked that their group or their representatives be interviewed. They did not ask that each of them be called in for specific private interviews, and they were most upset when they found that this was to occur, that their delegation was not to be heard, or they were not to be heard as a group, but that they were to be interviewed individually.

The second thing is, yes, they can bring in grievances. But they did bring in the grievances months ago and nothing has occurred. I have got the grievances right here in front of me, and this dates back to February and January, and they brought the grievances in and you did not do anything about it. Now how long does it take you to act? Here, I have grievances—let me just find them.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Sounds as though we are getting a snow job.

Mr. Shulman: Well, they are trying. We have grievances from the senior—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Whom were the grievances filed with? And when?

Mr. Shulman: The grievances were filed—well, I have the ones that got from the head of the hospital down to the Civil Service Association.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: When did they reach the grievance-procedural machinery?

Mr. Shulman: Last February.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the Civil Service Association?

Mr. Shulman: Yes. This CSAO thing was dated March 1, and it is from the senior resident supervisor and the secretary. Now how long does it take for a grievance to be—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know yet whether they have reached the commission, but perhaps—Mr. Oss?

Mr. Oss: The particular grievances Mr. Shulman refers to, Mr. Chairman, were processed by the grievors through the hospital level, which is the first step in the grievance procedure. They were also subsequently reviewed by the deputy minister of the department.

These two grievances referred particularly to a senior member of the staff. The situation was reviewed by the appropriate officials concerned and as far as I am aware now those particular grievances filed at that time, some months past, were resolved, because the particular points which were referred to at the hearing, at the hospital level—and I want to emphasize that, Mr. Chairman, and I do not know what information Mr. Shulman has, of course—the evidence and the information that was brought up at the hearing at that time was considered by the administrator and was also reviewed subsequently at the departmental level. Then a letter went back to the grievors saying that as far as we can see the administrator of the hospital had taken action to change certain practices which had been carried out and to which the two employees concerned made reference.

I am not aware whether the administrator's instructions were indeed carried out as they should have been carried out. If, for some reason, some residue of dissatisfaction remains then I presume it will again come out during the interviews which are presently conducted. I want again to emphasize, Mr. Chairman, in case it is not quite clear, that departmental management cannot stop any grievance from proceeding to the Public Service Grievance Board. There are various steps for seeing the institutional level, the departmental level. And if the grievors are not satisfied they are completely entitled to take their case directly to the Public Service Grievance Board and this procedure is laid out in the regulations and neither the institutional management nor the departmental management can take action, can influence the procedure in any way.

Mr. Shulman: I just hate the fact that you are misinforming us, or attempting to, because I have all the papers here. But before I go ahead—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, let me know—was there a grievance made?

Mr. Shulman: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: To the Public Service Grievance Board?

Mr. Shulman: No, it went to the hospital first.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All right. That is the first step.

Mr. Shulman: And nothing happened. They were called in subsequently by the superintendent who said: "Your grievance has been

processed and everything is going to be fine from now on," but their grievance was not—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay. Now, were they satisfied?

Mr. Shulman: Not from the way they have been coming down here and complaining to me.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but you are not the civil servants—

Mr. Shulman: Because they gave up on you people.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not "you people"; they have a system that goes into the civil service. It is very much like a union grievance, is it not?

Mr. Shulman: But the Civil Service Association did not do anything for them. The Civil Service Association made out a report saying it was an impossible situation. They sent this letter all over to your people—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but they did not grieve—

Mr. Shulman: They did not? They are sure grieving.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But did they go to the board that is set up to hear their grievances?

Mr. Shulman: The grievance was heard by someone.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Chairman, I do not think the minister should be asking the hon. member for High Park whether they had done those things. He has got all his advisers here to find out whether they have done those things or not.

Mr. Chairman: I want to make it very clear that anybody can address his remarks to the minister, and the minister can so ask his advisers to answer. It is his prerogative whether they want to answer or not.

Mr. Ben: But he is asking the member for High Park there to inform him.

Mr. Shulman: All right, I am sorry.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no; but I thought there was an allegation that they had grieved.

Mr. Shulman: There is an allegation they grieved.

An hon. member: Did they grieve? Let us find out.

Mr. Shulman: Yes, they grieved.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Within the law? I do not mean grieving to Mr. Shulman, or crying on the street. Did they grieve?

Mr. Shulman: They grieved to the head of your hospital. They grieved to the Civil Service Association. They put in a formal grievance procedure.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Did they grieve to the Public Service Grievance Board that is set up for exactly this purpose?

Mr. Shulman: Well, they grieved somewhere in your organization. Who heard them?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I grieve almost every day! But did they grieve? Tell me yes or no.

Mr. Oss: Those particular grievances which Mr. Shulman refers to have not been processed by the association or the individual employees to the Public Service Grievance Board so far.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay. Then they did not grieve.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us have no more damn nonsense on—okay, go ahead, sorry.

Mr. Shulman: Well, all right. It says the Civil Service Association is under the impression they grieved.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, they are wrong, apparently.

Mr. Shulman: They are wrong, too. The staff is wrong. They are wrong.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a fact. We can find out.

Mr. Shulman: It is a fact that they grieved and they had a hearing and nothing happened.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Look, is not the whole system set up, as I understand it, to give a grievance procedure? I mean, it is no different, Mr. Martel, is it, from the unions? You grieve according to your contract, do you not?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Shulman: This matter has been under consideration as a working condition grievance under section 35 of the Act. Is that clear enough?

Mr. Martel: Did they take the third step?

Mr. Shulman: Yes. The third step?

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): Who is to take this report?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The person who grieves, I would think, or the CSAO.

Interjections by hon. members.

An hon. member: Did the CSAO take it?

Mr. Dymond: If the association did not take it to the board, the grievance has not gone to the board.

Mr. Shulman: The association says in its statement—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Where is Mr. Pilkey? He would know how a union grieves. You either grieve or you do not grieve.

Mr. Dymond: Mr. Chairman, surely the rest of us know how the grievance works, as well.

Mr. Martel: It does not die somewhere—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Sure it does, if you do not push it.

Mr. Dymond: Even the employee, the grieving employee of the association, takes it to the board; or anyone can take it to the board on his or her behalf. This is set up in the procedures.

Mr. Martel: Right, and it should move automatically.

Mr. Ben: Oh, Mr. Dymond.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): You have to keep the initiative. How else could it work?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Then complain about the CSAO. Mr. Shulman has not complained about the CSAO, has he?

Mr. Martel: Well, they have got—they leave a lot to be desired.

Mr. Ben: That is the problem.

Mr. Shulman: Do I still have the floor? All right, if I may continue. They may not have

grieved as far as they should have grieved—let us leave that aside for the moment. The fact remains that the subject about which they grieved was brought to the head of the CSAO. It was brought here, I do know, to The Department of Health and the subject of grievance is so horrendous I hesitate to mention it publicly. You know very well what it is.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You know, your hesitancy is admirable.

Mr. Shulman: On the other hand, the fact remains that for at least four months this situation has continued out there to the detriment of the patients, to the complete demoralization of the staff. Now we have a situation where the persons who felt that they had to grieve because of a very, very serious situation in Whitby are being called in individually.

This is against their will, no matter what your advisers tell you. If you want, I can bring half a dozen of them down here to testify to that effect. They are being called in there individually against their will by the director of the hospital and by the head of the nursing staff, and they are being given a pretty hectic grilling as to who was letting this information out; who had been complaining about senior staff. That seems to be what the subject is of the interrogation. Not what the problems are, but who let the cat out of the bag. Now, goodness gracious, you cannot continue like this.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, you grieve.

Mr. Shulman: Oh boy! Mr. Minister—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Look, if there were a unionist present in your group—are you?

Mr. Shulman: No.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, how do you handle this in a union?

An hon. member: Picket.

Mr. Martel: The union is on—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is right, so this is an attack upon the CSAO, not an attack upon the hospital.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): Is there a difference here between matters which are the policy of your department, in relation to the patients in that institution and the working conditions of the people in the institution?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have not had a patient mentioned.

Mr. Pitman: This is the point I am trying to get at. Is the problem—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You are the first one to mention a patient.

Mr. Pitman: Yes? Well, I know nothing about it. Can we assume that in my discussion and questioning with you, Mr. Chairman, I know nothing about it? I am simply trying to determine why it is that this thing is being brought up in this way.

It would seem to me that possibly the reason the CSAO could not bring it forward was because it was a matter of the policy of your department, and it had nothing to do with the individual problems of the employees in that institution.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. Pitman: Is it the problem—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have a personnel problem in that institution.

Mr. Pitman: It is entirely personnel—the relationships between people on the staff?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. Shulman: No, wrong.

Mr. Pitman: Nothing to do with the patients at all?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, everything has something to do with the patients.

Mr. Pitman: Surely there is a very indefinite line here. As I say, I can ask these questions because I know nothing about it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not quarrelling with the asking of the questions, but I am suggesting that if there is a lawful and proper and highly sophisticated system of going through the steps of grievance, as you would in any other employee-employer relationship, why is it suggested that they cut off at the first or second level and not proceed—

Mr. Shulman: All right—because they find out that it has got nothing to do, in a sense, with the specific areas which the CSAO and the union had the right to discuss with—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You can grieve on any ground in the relationship between the employer and the employee.

Mr. Pitman: That is not what I am talking about. In my opinion, the subject matter of this particular grievance would be, *prima facie*, absolutely valid. That is, complaints about the way a particular superior person in the system was treating them as employees.

Mr. Shulman: And the patients. It is the policy of your department—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You never mentioned that, of course.

Mr. Shulman: Oh, Mr. Minister!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But I will agree, of course, this all affects patients. If you are dealing with the question of the grievance as you were, I think it is horrendous to think that we would tear the whole system up after the first or second stage and not allow the CSAO or—

Mr. Shulman: The CSAO issues its bulletin in desperation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They have a grievance procedure.

Mr. Shulman: Well, all right. Let me explain to you what is happening since you are not aware—

An hon. member: Read it into the records.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): I think so, let us hear, read the letter.

Mr. Shulman: The whole letter?

Mr. Ben: I would like to hear what it is all about so I will know what the argument is about. Read the whole thing slowly so we can—

Mr. Shulman: I do not wish to read the whole grievance.

Mr. Ben: I would like to hear the whole grievance.

Mr. Shulman: I would be glad to show it to you.

Mr. Ben: You are entitled to it and if you feel that you are entitled to it—and you decry the fact that you are entitled to information but you do not get it—surely we are all also entitled to it. Please read it for the edification of all of us.

Mr. Shulman: May I say something first? First of all, the problem involves patients as well as staff. It is not a grievance procedure in which a member or members of the staff feel that they have a particular personal

problem. But as a result of this, I know that members of the staff—in fact, many of these people are very highly qualified and have no difficulty in getting other positions—I know that at least one senior member has already submitted her resignation, effective in June. I am referring to Miss McEachren who is in charge of all the students there, because the situation was just so difficult there. Surely—a highly qualified person of this type goes through months of this and finds the simplest thing to do is just get out.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But a resignation, to me, is a matter involving employer-employee relations. Now, of course, it also involves all the patients, but the question I ask myself, and I do not know any more about it than you do, is why the CSAO did not carry the grievance?

Mr. Shulman: Frankly, I could not care less why they did or they did not. That is their problem—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But I have to care because this is part of an institutional—

Mr. Shulman: —but you have to look after the welfare of the patients. You have a problem involving the welfare of the patients, and I suggest to you that that problem is so serious that right now, tonight, you should put that hospital under another temporary administration until this matter is resolved.

I am thinking only of the patients. I do not care about the grievance or the CSAO or the particular individuals involved. Put them on a holiday with pay, if necessary, until you can get this straightened out because when 27 members of your staff tell you there is something seriously wrong, it is time to do something.

What they asked me to read, and which I will read in full—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But their allegation, if I may interrupt, does not relate to the system. It relates to individuals and allegations involving individual personalities which is the absolute gist of a normal employer-employee grievance.

Mr. Shulman: Except that the persons involved are responsible for the patients. As a result of what has occurred out there, the patients are not getting the best care.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It all relates, as I understand it, to the pros and cons of the capacities or abilities of one senior employee.

Mr. Shulman: I am afraid it is not that simple.

Mr. Ben: Well, let us hear it please.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is how you have alleged it to be.

Mr. Shulman: I have shown you material on it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Shulman: And you have seen it. "The Civil Service Association of Ontario,"—this is the full part about the school of nursing.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Shulman: To continue:

Memo to rehabilitation officers, instructors and nursing school employees; dated March 16, 1971, from Paul Bolissian, classification officer.

Subject: Position audit investigations, Whitby Psychiatric Hospital, March 8 to March 12, 1971.

Participants: Mr. Paul Bolissian, classification officer, Mr. Don Moore, original representative, CSAO, Mr. Clyde Joakin, Department of Health, Toronto, and Mr. R. Roxborough, Hospital personnel officer, Whitby Psychiatric Hospital, Dr. Paul Carron, CSAO observer. The three units that were audited are recreational and vocational services, school of nursing, maintenance services.

The part that I am talking about is the school of nursing and that is the only portion I will read because the other is not relevant to what we are discussing now.

The School of Nursing. Positions audited: secretary; senior resident supervisor (2); resident supervisor (1).

Mr. Ben: What does the hon. member mean by "positions audited"? Was this a general checkup on these positions when you say "positions audited"? Is that what it was?

Mr. Shulman: Do you want my interpretation? My interpretation is that these went out to find out what was wrong and why so many complaints were coming down from the people in these positions.

Mr. Ben: It is not a regular procedure of the department to audit the positions?

Mr. Shulman: It was not done by the department; this was done by the Civil Service Association.

Mr. Ben: Well, it is part of a regular procedure by the Civil Service Association—

Mr. Shulman: No.

Mr. Ben: —to determine whether they should be reclassified, what increases they should have?

Mr. Shulman: No.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Shulman has the floor.

Mr. Shulman: To continue:

The position audit in this section was conducted between the hospital personnel officer and me. The departmental personnel officer sat in on the last session as an observer. The audit was a failure because the classification system has been circumvented in more than one area.

Do you want me to read exactly as it reads?

Mr. Ben: Word for word. Yes.

Mr. Shulman: Very well.

The associate director imposes inhibitions on the group leadership to bear on the communication downwards and horizontally. Alien duties are performed privately for the associate director during working hours, at first supposedly voluntarily and eventually as assignments. Fear dominates the upward reporting and relationship. It is incredible that an associate director could be permitted to subject public servants to such pressure tactics and unfair treatment contrary to all human rights codes and The Public Service Act for reasons known only to the associate director.

It appears that the director of the school has also abdicated her responsibilities, but since this matter has been under consideration as a working condition grievance under section 35 of the Act, I do not wish to go into the details or semantics of the issues involved.

That is the end of it.

I also have, and I am not going to—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All right, but what did they do about it? That is, the CSAO.

Mr. Shulman: The CSAO?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What did the CSAO do?

Mr. Shulman: They seem to have written a hell of a lot of letters but they did not—I am not sure. What can they do about it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They can grieve.

Mr. Shulman: According to this they did issue a grievance last March.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is categorically denied by my staff. The CSAO after saying those things, dropped the thing.

Mr. Martel: They dropped the thing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They did not grieve, which is obviously what they should—

Mr. Shulman: They say here they did grieve.

Mr. Ben: Well, they are not discussing a point that is presently under grievance, as being *res judicata*. There is one point that they say they are not going to discuss or write about because it happens to be under grievance.

Mr. Shulman: Right.

Mr. Ben: But they are not grieving about the things you mention and this is a rather shocking report, and something should be done about it. I agree with you.

Mr. Shulman: I have the full complaint here, of the grievors, but I am not going to read this into the record for reasons which will be obvious to you. I will be glad to show it to you.

Mr. Ben: Okay, I will see it later.

Mr. Shulman: You may see it now if you wish.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Shulman, let me say, we must clearly admit that there is a personnel problem there.

Mr. Shulman: Agreed.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We must clearly admit that it relates to the nursing education function; it is not a complaint directly in relation to the patient care.

Mr. Shulman: A portion of it is.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not what you have read tonight.

Mr. Shulman: No, not what I have read.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We must clearly admit that the Civil Service Association chose at that point to drop it and not go to the grievance board.

Mr. Shulman: I am not going to concede that, but all right, go ahead.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, those are the three—

Mr. Shulman: Let us suppose you are 100 per cent right, and let us forget all about the grievors and the grievances of the staff. At the moment we are talking about the welfare of the patients.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Only in the context of a particular personnel problem.

Mr. Shulman: All right, in the context of that personnel problem. If the welfare of the patients is being hurt, regardless of what context or for what reason—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, there has not been any allegation so far—

Mr. Shulman: There certainly has. There most certainly has.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Of course, any kind of personnel problem reflects one way or another upon—

Mr. Shulman: But it has been more than an indirect complaint. There has been a direct complaint that proper care is not being given because of the confusion, the demoralization, that has taken place at Whitby. It is in that 11-page statement which Mr. Ben has.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Again, we must come back to the fact that this is the nursing education branch, or function.

Mr. Shulman: Not just that. There are 27 staff members. I do not think there are 27 people involved in nursing education.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You have not suggested that there is any patient care involved.

Mr. Shulman: Well, if I have not, I am now and I think I have been suggesting that right along, but let me state it very flatly, right here and now. Just Tuesday, I had three staff members, senior staff members from the Whitby Hospital, sitting in my office, saying the patients are not able to get the proper care because the nursing staff is demoralized. Now, that is clear enough and they say they are prepared to testify to that effect.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Of course, a personnel problem, every personnel problem, reflects in some way upon the efficiency of an institution; if it exists, for good or ill.

Mr. Shulman: But you have to do something.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are. We are in the middle of interviews, yesterday, tomorrow. What more can we in good sense do—

Mr. Shulman: I know what I would do. Well, if you do not want my ideas, go ahead.

Mr. W. Newman: Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question. We are talking about—just so I will have it clear in my own mind—the member for High Park is talking about the nursing educational function involving 25 employees. I understand there are around 1,100 employees at this hospital. I would like to ask you or your staff, are the patients suffering as a result of this problem you are talking about here?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This has only been indirectly alleged.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but let us accept that anything but a smooth running ship is less than 100 per cent for all patients. Let us also accept that we have here a typical and basic employer-employee grievance, relating to the employees' attitude toward one of their superiors, which may or may not be right. We are investigating it.

The CSAO, apparently, ceased interest at a certain point. When we have finished our interviews there will be nothing hidden. If the interviews result, from our point of view, in finding that the person involved does not have the capacity, for one reason or another, to fulfil the job, that person will not be kept on. But to raise this in the midst of the normal functioning of an institutional operation where people do have to be interviewed, or the evidence does have to get out, does not seem to me to be reasonable. The other part is that even if we do not act, the big question mark still remains; why the CSAO does not grieve.

Mr. Martel: May I ask you a question on that one? The procedure—how long is there in the contract agreement between stages one, two, and three?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Oss, could you answer that particular question?

Mr. Oss: The time limits, Mr. Chairman, are laid down in the regulations made under The Public Service Act, and in this we have for grievances, under working conditions in

terms of employment. Any person who has a complaint in respect of working conditions of employment should bring it to the attention of his immediate supervisor within 14 days of becoming aware of the complaint.

Mr. Martel: Stage one.

Mr. Oss: Then the supervisor and the employee should try to resolve it by informal discussion. If no resolution results, then a formal grievance in writing can be filed in the following seven days. If still no satisfaction is received during the next step, then the grievance proceeds on the deputy minister, who is supposed to investigate it again and give his own decision within 14 days. If the deputy minister's position is not satisfactory, then the grievance can be presented to the Public Service Grievance Board.

Mr. Ferrier: It is a form of arbitration then?

Mr. Martel: Yes, that is right.

Mr. Ben: I have read—

Mr. Shulman: We cannot hear.

Mr. Ben: I say, I have read what Mr. Shulman has there and I want to say it has nothing to do with the grievance committee. But it is a definite condemnation, if the charges there are true, against the administration of that hospital. Now I am not going to say much more than this. I am asking Mr. Shulman to give that statement to you.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have read it myself.

Mr. Ben: Then it is your responsibility to carry out an investigation and not the civil service—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is exactly what we are doing.

Mr. Ben: How long have you been doing it?

Mr. Chairman: All right. Mr. Shulman, are you finished?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Tuesday was the day it started.

Mr. Ben: Tuesday was the day it started and you presently have it under active consideration and investigation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right, this afternoon and tomorrow.

Mr. Ben: All right, maybe you can give us an answer within a week.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. Shulman: Why did it only start Tuesday? I came to you long before Tuesday.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not long before Tuesday.

Mr. Shulman: Today is Thursday, I came to you over 10 days ago.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That was to me. The department went into gear on Tuesday.

Mr. Shulman: That is disappointing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, my golly.

Mr. Martel: What happened after it—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron—

Mr. Martel: Dr. Charron, I will ask through Mr. Minister, what happened after it reached the deputy minister's level? It apparently got that far. What happened after that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Just a second. We will try to recollect.

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister): I had the matter investigated and as a result of this investigation I wrote to them and said that I understood the matters that they had grieved about had been resolved by the administrator, and if this was the case then the matter had been closed and I left it at that.

Mr. Shulman: But that is not the point.

Mr. Martel: According to the reports, as I understand them anyway, that my colleague brought up, they were not resolved. Was there a follow-up in the department to ensure that the grievances were cleared up? Was there a checking-out?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is the follow-up that we are engaged in at the moment.

Mr. Martel: Yes, but we have been arguing about the grievance procedure, Mr. Minister, and the fact that it was not followed. The CSAO—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have a responsibility apart from the grievance procedure.

Mr. Martel: Right, that is the point we are trying to make.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And that is what we are discharging at the moment by investi-

gating from our own point of view to assess it as a department.

Mr. Martel: But that is not the impression you left us with a few minutes ago. We were left with the impression it just floundered in the wilderness and it really did not flounder in the wilderness; it got to the deputy minister level.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no, it went there in its grievance steps.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It went there and died. It died because of lack of initiative at some point from the griever's side or the CSAO's side, I do not know which, but it stopped. Now we have an overriding responsibility in relation to our own personnel, and we have, as I said in the beginning, a personnel problem.

But in the midst of assessing it from a departmental point of view, not from a management-labour point of view, I do not really feel that it is fair to the person being discussed that we prejudge the case while it is being investigated on the basis of the allegations of one side—

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —whether they are going to turn out to be true or not.

Mr. Martel: Right, I will accept that. That is exactly what I have been trying to say.

Mr. Dymond: Mr. Chairman, it is necessary to point out that this grievance is not being left to flounder; that the griever still has the right to reject the deputy minister's ruling and go on to the further step.

Mr. Martel: Could I ask the deputy minister when it came to his attention, how long ago?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As the Minister of Health, I may be more concerned, as a department we have to be concerned, with a personnel problem, above and beyond the technicalities.

Mr. Dymond: With respect—

Mr. Ben: I think I should point out that my hon. colleague from High Park was not expressing himself as well as he could. His prime concern was for the welfare of the patients.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I would like to clear up a point that my colleague raised about the interviews. I want to be pretty specific about this. The gentleman sitting behind Dr. Charron said that the 27 employees had asked for an interview. Was it individually they asked for this, or as a group.

Mr. Oss: The information I have is that those particular employees asked to be interviewed by the administrator in the presence of the hospital representative, who is Dr. Carron, whose name was mentioned by Mr. Shulman, who is the local CSAO steward, and an observer from the personnel branch. I do not think that a mass meeting was contemplated, so I can only assume that it would be individual interviews in the presence of the union representation; this is my information at this time.

Mr. Martel: I have never seen a trade union or a teachers group or anyone else go individually. They might not send the whole body because it becomes unwieldy, but I think it is imperative we know whether they refused to meet a delegation, because I am a little disturbed that nurses leave an interview crying. It seems to me not an interview at all, but a form of harassment, that at least four of them leave crying. Interviewed by the man who is being investigated no less!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We do not know this.

Mr. Martel: You do know what the cause of the whole issue is.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We do not know if they cried or not.

Mr. Martel: Then you are saying my colleague is not telling the truth.

Mr. Shulman: They say they cried.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Neither of us knows whether they cried or not.

Mr. Shulman: All right.

Mr. Martel: There is still the point, Mr. Minister, how can you allow the man who is being investigated to do the interrogating?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not the case.

Mr. Martel: The administrator is doing the—okay, we will go on then. I am trying to get it all straight here, you see.

Mr. Oss: Mr. Chairman, if I might explain the organizational hierarchy involved. The issue which has been brought up here relates, as Mr. Shulman stated, from the letter to the associate director of nursing education at the Whitby Hospital. Organizationally speaking, this particular senior employee reports to the director of nurses, who in turn reports to the medical director, who in turn reports to the hospital administrator.

So the person whose actions—whatever they may or may not be is subject to grievance or otherwise—is quite a few steps down in the hierarchy. All the interviews at the employees' request are conducted by the administrator of the hospital, who is not being investigated, who has nothing to do personally with this issue, but who is trying to sort out what the facts are.

Mr. Martel: Fine. I am glad that is straightened out.

Mr. Shulman: May I say as far as the administrator goes I just want to say a word on that subject. It is quite true that the administrator himself is not the person being complained of. This all arose, as you know, when I was invited to speak to a group of students.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh no, it arose long before that.

Mr. Shulman: It arose here then, this is how I learned of it, and I want to tell what the administrator did the next day; in fact two things that occurred involving the administrator.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But that personnel problem goes back long before you were asked to speak there.

Mr. Shulman: Okay, you were saying the administrator is doing the interviewing. The administrator apparently comes to his judgments without interviewing, because the day after I rose in the House, whenever it was, two weeks ago, and complained that I had not been allowed to speak to these students, the administrator issued a statement to the press which was carried in the Globe and by Canadian Press in which he said he had investigated and that there never had been any invitation extended to me. I subsequently found he did not even question the persons who would have known. This is the type of investigation he did.

Furthermore, the day after that, all of the students in that course were asked to sign a

petition—and let me say their graduation, as to whether or not they were to graduate was coming up this week—saying that they had never invited me to speak, and they brought this petition to the secretary of the head of the nursing course and asked her to type it and she said, “I will not type that, you know it is not true.”

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As you know, as far as I am concerned the thought of you not being able to speak anywhere you like is completely abhorrent.

Mr. Shulman: That is not the point. Really, that is a minor side issue.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well I do not know where—

Mr. Shulman: What I am casting doubt on now is the impartiality of the administration to do the investigation. You should have someone from Queen's Park do that investigation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have got someone from Queen's Park sitting in, have we not, on this series of interviews—on the investigation, if you want to call it that.

Mr. Martel: However, what kind of interview would it be, Mr. Minister, that would leave people completely demoralized?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know whether they are completely demoralized. As I said, I do not know any more than you know whether they are crying or not crying.

Mr. Martel: Could you know for certain before these estimates are finished as to what type of interview this is and the effect on the employees involved?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly I will find out.

Mr. Martel: I think we have to know.

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished?

Mr. Martel: I am with this subject, but I want to speak on one other subject.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Are you going to be long?

Mr. Martel: No, I am only going to be a few minutes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, ever since I came to the House I have been attempting to get some form of treatment centre for the retarded in the Sudbury area. It was not promised by

your immediate predecessor, but your predecessor indicated to me, when he was Minister of Health, that we were not using mortars and bricks and so on to build prison-type institutions. I accepted that, but I have been pursuing a radar base.

Within the last week, Mr. Minister, my colleague Cliff Pilkey and I had supper with a man who has actually bid to demolish the radar installation at the radar base in Capreol.

Your immediate predecessor in the department wrote the federal government last year with respect to purchasing, or the possibility of purchasing, the Falconbridge radar base. I indicated last year that it was just a matter of time until this base was taken apart, and within the last week I had supper with the man, or one of the people, who bid to demolish the radar section up on the hill, but not the homes and so on.

I wonder how closely the department has been in contact with the federal Minister of National Defence of late to see if that facility is going to become available in the very near future?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we should assess whether we want it.

Mr. Martel: Your predecessor wrote the federal government and indicated to me during the estimates last year that he wanted it. Maybe we had better start from there then. Is the department still interested?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Henderson?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, we have been following the situation as to whether or not the base would become available and the most recent information was very uncertain. The question of programming for the area is dependent on the facilities that are there, which we really have not seen. We also try to get units that are relatively small into the population centres, rather than to have one large one to serve a very big area.

But we have certainly been watching this and we will continue to watch it.

Mr. Martel: I believe Dr. Zarfaz went to see it first-hand. It is not that large.

Dr. Henderson: We have not seen it.

Mr. Martel: You have not seen it? I would recommend then that the first step—and I have been after it for four years almost—I would recommend that maybe you come and have a look at it. I will drive you out.

You just let me know the day, because the information I got within the last week is that there are definite bids to demolish the radar installation that is on the hill.

Ottawa might say no, but first of all we just need a facility. It has been promised since 1959, Mr. Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have been asking the federal government, apparently on a continuing basis, as to what their position is and we have no answer, is that right?

Dr. Henderson: No, we were told it was not becoming vacant in the foreseeable future. We would be very glad to take a look at it.

Mr. Martel: I would hope you would pursue it again. I would hope that some people would come up and at least have a look at it before you start thinking maybe it is too large. It is not that large, but it is first rate.

There is a swimming pool, a school, a big gymnasium, the grass is green for acres and acres, and all small home settings. It is just superb, and I would hope that you would come and look at it and then start to push a little, because it is necessary.

As I have been trying to explain, the airport is three miles away from the site; the CNR is about nine miles away; the CPR is about 10 miles away; it is right on the Trans-Canada Highway; it is central to Timmins, North Bay, the Soo and the Sudbury area. You just could not get a better locality.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Except it is not ours.

Mr. Martel: The point is it is still the federal government's, but when people are bidding on it, you know somebody has got more information than we have got, Mr. Minister. When the demolition contractors are bidding to tear it apart, somebody has got some inside information somewhere.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay, we will be there.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Reid.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister some questions regarding facilities for the mentally retarded, particularly as they obtain to my area. I might get off the track here because I know that The Department of Social and Family Services also deals with the mentally retarded, but I would like to ask the

minister a number of questions in relation to this problem.

I think it is one of the most serious social problems that we have. I have a bulletin in front of me from the Ontario Association for the Mentally Retarded in which they estimate there are approximately 210,000 mentally retarded people and the heartache and the agony cannot be measured in statistics of any kind. It seems to me that the people who have retarded in their families have been fighting an uphill battle almost alone to provide facilities and support for the schools and residences and things like their ARC Industry, and the adult rehabilitation centre.

I wonder if the minister has any plans or policies in regard to supplying funds to local associations or the retarded, or regional associations, whereby those associations could set up residences for the mentally retarded? I speak specifically of northwestern Ontario, where every small community pretty well has somebody who fits into the mentally retarded classification, and it is pretty hard for the families to keep them at home and to keep them occupied. We have no alternative but to either do that or send them down south here, which most people do not like to do.

Is it possible for the government to provide some financial assistance in the way of capital grants for setting up residences which would function both as a residence and as a school or adult rehabilitation centre, all one unit in effect, particularly in northern and rural areas?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, indeed. It relates actually to questions being asked by Mr. Martel.

Some years ago it was thought that a 400-bed unit should be put into Sudbury. It is now very much subject to question whether we will do that, or whether we will break down our institutions so they are no longer institutions essentially and will be spread across the north and across the south and the east.

I hope, within about two weeks, to present to the Legislature and to the public a policy statement outlining a new policy, the culmination of an awful lot of thinking in this field, but stated in a way that answers, for instance, your question. But suffice it to say at the moment, before making sort of a statement of principle in this regard, yes, the ideal we are aiming for is and has been, of course—I remember my first question to

Mr. Dymond when I was a new member here received a positive answer, insofar as previous ministers in this department were concerned, in relation to the breaking down of the old-fashioned institution—"Yes."

Along with that goes the very point you were making, because it is only when we can get broken down into the small decentralized, local units that we can really draw effectively from the community you are speaking of. I will be going to this—

Mr. T. P. Reid: We can expect something within a two-week period?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, and it will be directly along this line.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I will not go into it in detail, I am certainly glad to hear this because it strikes me that in the budget of The Department of Health this is one of the areas I feel, Mr. Minister, that has been long neglected by the department.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no, we have had our old institutions, but our new institutions have been developed along this line.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, let me put it this way: it is a topic that does not come up very often in public, perhaps because there is a hangover of the old feeling toward the retarded that they should be shut away and not acknowledged. My point is that this is certainly long outmoded, and that to provide these people with the best possible life under the circumstances for them and their families, the department should provide the kind of aid that I spoke of so these people can still live in their own communities and at least be in a position where they will not be too far from their homes if they have to go into a larger centre where they can be trained or work and be with people in similar situations.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I will not go into that then. I have one more question along this line; I do not want to prolong this in view of your statement.

Does The Department of Health plan to give any aid and assistance to the ARC industries, the adult rehabilitation centres?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The government does, but whether we do it or not—It is Social and Family Services.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Through The Department of Social and Family Services.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is no direct link with us.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I might as well save that for those estimates, then.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This relates to their programme.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, I realize that, but I think really that if the minister in his review would have a look, that this should be part of his policy statement, because the ARC industries are a large part of the life of the retarded people and here we get into this government departmental and compartmentalization again. I do not think we are being as effective as we maybe should be in this area, particularly because Social and Family has one programme and you have another.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, we do not have another, we co-ordinate—

Mr. T. P. Reid: You do not have any as far as—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, we do, we have the health programme in relation to—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, but not as far as, say, these adult rehabilitation centres go. My only point is it should be one programme right across the board rather than separated the way it is.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, that is a question—

Mr. T. P. Reid: You see you are providing one facility in your institutions and Social and Family Services is providing another one on a very limited and almost infinitesimal scale compared to what should be done.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We co-ordinate with them. I will agree with you, you cannot chop up people into departments.

Mr. T. P. Reid: No. Perhaps the statement that you come out with will answer many of these questions.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Some of them, but I think that The Department of Social and Family Services and ourselves will have to deal with different aspects of the same problem or we would all end up in one big department.

Mr. T. P. Reid: All right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier is next.

Mr. Ferrier: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to deal with one particular hospital, if I could, and that is the North-western Regional Mental Health Centre, as it is called now. There has been great concern for quite a while in my riding about this hospital because the impression is very rampant within the community that a large structure exists, with only a small portion of it being used for treating patients. I realize there are some other activities going on there, by way of the alcohol and drug addiction programme and teaching—I think, nurses' aids or somebody else are being taught there.

But people feel that with all this extra space that it could be used for a chronic care hospital and I know one of the hospitals in the area is discussing the fact that a wing or two of it might be taken over to become a general hospital, and emergency services could be made available; at least one side of it could be made available for emergency treatment of patients who are needing some kind of psychiatric assessment.

As it stands now, if a person develops into a crisis stage and needs to be admitted to that particular hospital, they cannot be admitted directly but they must be admitted to a bed in the general hospital and from there to the psychiatric hospital.

In the case of St. Mary's Hospital in Timmins, where there is a shortage of beds, it is not very likely that a doctor is going to tie up an active treatment bed for a patient in a mentally disturbed state and keep the person who needs that bed waiting for something else. So the medical association in the area is not terribly co-operative. I have had people calling me about matters in this regard, half the clergymen in town seem to be drawn into it to try to get a patient who is in an acute stage into the hospital, and it seems to be a difficult thing.

Now, I wrote quite a long letter to the minister about some of the complaints that I have had and he very graciously answered that letter.

The question I raised at the time was that there needed to be a fairly drastic increase in the budget of that hospital to expand the services and I believe there were some 90-odd beds occupied. It was felt they could go to at least another 25 for adults and perhaps expand to another 25 for children, so that a good proportion of the hospital could be used for what it was built for, a mental health treatment centre, and all the bad publicity that the hospital seems to have been getting

within the community would somehow or other be dispelled.

I have nothing but praise for the treatment programmes that are going on there but I think the fact that sections are empty has created a very bad impression in the community.

The minister wrote back a letter saying that the budget for this hospital was adequate for the centre's needs in 1971 and 1972. So the first question I want to ask is: Was there an increase in the budget this year to enable the hospital to open more wards or beds so that more staff could be hired and the programme expanded? That is the first question I would like to ask about the hospital.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think I will leave the question of staffing to Dr. Henderson. The information given to me does not suggest the degree of under-utilization that you describe. But perhaps Dr. Henderson could speak to this question.

Dr. Henderson: It is my understanding, Mr. Chairman, that there is only one ward of the hospital that is not being used at the present time as far as space is concerned, and this they are hoping to use for expansion in the children and adolescents programme. There are a number of other activities that the hospital space is being used for, including the regional school of nursing. As you know, there is a large vocational and recreational therapy programme within the main building of the hospital, and there are a large number of day-care activities—up to 120 patients, I believe it is, that attend the hospital on a given day for day-care activities.

It is a different kind of utilization, but I do not think it is being under-utilized, as you have been led to believe in these statements, in total beds.

Mr. Ferrier: Could I ask Dr. Henderson through you, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, how many beds are now being utilized, how many in-hospital patients are there?

Dr. Henderson: Ninety-five, sir.

Mr. Ferrier: Ninety-five. And are you satisfied that is a sufficient number of beds to be used in that institution?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, we are heading, from the notes I have, for a bed capacity of 155, composed of 105 adults and 50 children and adolescents.

Mr. Ferrier: Is your budget for this year sufficient to enable you to go up to this level?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This year I expect not.

Mr. Ferrier: I find it very hard to understand why you would put a ceiling on a hospital under development like this one. It was opened in 1968, and it got off to a good start and then it has sort of been sitting there unable to expand and to move up to this number of beds, and to take the people that I am sure are in northeastern Ontario and need treatment. And I am sure that there are emotionally disturbed children who are being treated in other parts of the province who could very well be treated there. I think you have got the facility and it is a good facility and it is a good programme and yet you are not using it and serving the area as you should.

I feel that what should have been done or should still be done is that extra 50 or 55 beds that Dr. Henderson talks about here should be utilized right now, and if you are going to put your ceiling on it, put your ceiling on it when you have full utilization and not leave it there as it is under-utilized.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We cannot. Of course, it is not just a question of beds, it is a question of staff to supervise the additional people who would occupy those beds. The development staff in other than the central sections of the province, those close to southern Ontario, is always a problem. And so our struggle here is not only with the question of budgetary business of beds per se, it means nothing unless we can provide adequate staff. I cannot tell you, but perhaps Dr. Henderson can, as to where the staff situation sits. Because we cannot have one without the other.

Mr. Ferrier: If you do not get the money, how can you get the staff?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but we have got to be able to get the staff, and that is a very specific problem in the north as you know.

Mr. Ferrier: You have had an acting medical director who has only been there for half the month and the other half he has been down here, and I understand he has sent in his resignation. Have you been able to get even a medical doctor for the hospital?

Dr. Henderson: A full-time medical director has recently been appointed, Mr. Chair-

man. I am not aware that the acting medical director was going to discontinue his work at the hospital.

Mr. Ferrier: Maybe I was misinformed. I was not informed by him, but heard in a roundabout way.

Dr. Henderson: We have been doing our best to recruit the other senior staff that would be required for further development of programmes, but there are difficulties in doing this.

Mr. Ferrier: It would seem to me that if you said, "We have this money that we will make available to you," I think that the staff could be found all right. I do not think that with the kind of people that are there now, it is not a large number of psychiatrists, but there are social workers and other kinds of personnel that have come in and are making a real contribution at the hospital and in the community. I think that if you made the money available these people could be found.

I just happen to think that the Ministers of Health and the Treasury Board have been very short-sighted, investing perhaps \$5.5 million or more in the construction of this edifice. It is a good edifice, there is a good programme, it does not have the kind of aura about it that some other larger mental hospitals probably have. I think there is a good relationship in many respects between patients and the various staff members. And yet to have made that capital investment and to not make the extra money available so that the full hospital can be utilized, I feel that you are putting even the hospital and staff in some kind of a vulnerable position, because it grieves me, I just do not like to have people in the community making snide remarks or extremely critical remarks about that institution.

I suppose from a political point of view, being in the opposition, it might be a good thing and I should try to exploit it, but I have not, because it should have a good rapport with the community and that is what it was built for, it should be used for that. I just cannot understand the government not making the money available, and not making it as functional as possible. It is just almost beyond comprehension.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Have we any estimate, Dr. Henderson, as to the time frame in which we could expect to be able to utilize the additional ward, and the staff that would be required to be hired?

Dr. G. A. Ives (Mental Health Division): Mr. Chairman, if complement were available or staff became available, it should be comparatively speedy to build up the ward service, both adult and children and adolescents, to a higher level. The exact timing is of course, a little uncertain and cannot be set to the nearest week or month. But it should not be extremely long time.

Dr. Henderson: The big problem is your senior staff would give direction to the programme and we are hoping that as soon as we get that situation resolved we can move on the other part.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do we have enough money to proceed? Or are we proceeding?

Dr. Henderson: I do not think we have sufficient funds in the budget this year, sir, to get the full development that is talked of—105 adult and 50 children.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What can we do within your budget this year? What are you aiming at?

Dr. Henderson: We are hoping to be able to expand the children's service and to obtain some additional complement that would enable us to do this. This is under consideration now.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: So we will have something visible this year in our improved use of the facilities.

Dr. Henderson: I would hope so, that would take up that one ward.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Will that be this year we will be able to put this ward into operation as it were?

Dr. Henderson: This is what we are planning to do, we are hoping to.

Mr. Ferrier: If you can do it, I will be the happiest person around here, because I know there is a waiting list.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In other words, within this year the children's section can be as wished.

Dr. Henderson: We will do all we can.

Mr. Ferrier: And I hope that next year you will make additional provision in the budget to make sure that that adult ward, or the extra beds, are operative and that the staff that needs to be hired can be hired.

I do not think it would cost any more in terms of supporting personnel and laundry or kitchen or anything like that. But it is the professional staff. I certainly will appreciate all that can be done to make this hospital what its potential is and the way it can serve the area. If we get more of the same thing, good service from the people that are there now, I will be very pleased.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pitman.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to follow the subject, Mr. Chairman, for a moment in talking about the retarded. It seems to me this routine has been going on for years and years and years. If we have staff available when it comes to retarded children—when we have ordinary children, the staff turns up, it is available.

I mean if we close schools because there are not many teachers we can produce teachers. It seems to me just incongruous that for years around here we have heard this statement, "If staff were available." And my colleague here has pointed out today the disgraceful situation where you have got a building, you have got beds, you have got all of the supportive services, and here you are having it utilized maybe only 66 per cent because staff is not available.

We used money to draw teachers from other countries, when staff was not available in our schools. We used short summer courses to create staff when we did not have enough teachers in our schools. I would suggest to you here again, are we utilizing all of our service personnel in this area? I doubt it. I doubt it very much. For example, how much influence has there been upon changing the whole development of the services to the mentally retarded? How much do we use young people in terms of servicing mentally retarded children? How much do we use volunteers in helping mentally retarded? To what extent has there been a real thrust in our community college to provide personnel? Now it seems to me we have got 3,000 teachers walking the streets, unemployed. For heaven's sake, why can we not have some kind of rational dispensation of personnel so that we do not have people who have got no services while you have got all kinds of personnel to over-service the school system? It just does not seem that we have a very effective planning system in this province.

I say this with some emotion, because my wife has no training at all. She has never been to a teachers' college. She did not even

graduate from grade 13; she worked. In fact, she worked while I was going to university, and yet she goes, morning after morning and she works with retarded children, on a one-to-one basis. And, do you know, that it is far more important than having a psychiatrist looking after 50 of them?

What these young kids who are retarded need is someone to go out and teach them how to skip, how to bounce a ball. They need very limited, very minimal services.

This is particularly true of those who need support within the community. I realize that the ones who are in the hospital setting are perhaps more medically oriented than they are actively oriented. But I just find no way of understanding why it is that we find it so difficult—and I say this has been going on now for three years—why it is so difficult to get staff. We have situations like the North-eastern Hospital here when it comes to retarded children, and yet we seem to have so much when it comes to the ordinary kids.

It comes down again to the limits that we put on retarded children when they are in the community, which came up in the House the other day. It is not this minister's total responsibility, because it is one of these crazy things that gets tossed around between departments, and I hope when the minister makes his statement that we get some pretty close centralizing of the whole theme of the retarded, because they get tossed between Social and Family Services, The Department of Education, and the minister's department.

It just seems to me that, for example, there is very little support for pre-school retarded children in the community. A group of volunteers have to get together and they haul the mothers in and try to give them some time, without this being their problem.

It appears to me that this is the area where you could really do something—supportive services in the community, where you can really make a difference in those first few years, from two to five. I am no expert in this area, but I know if something happens in that period you might very well—we have started to learn a great deal about how you can raise the IQs of retarded children and make them—I will not say productive individuals, but certainly citizens who can play some role in the society in which we live.

I believe that we do not really try very hard in this area. It is the bottom of the heap and, by golly, I think that one of the ways that we can really be judged, I think, as a society, is by the degree to which we allow

these young people to flounder around amidst all these various programmes.

What is the extent of the waiting list, anyway, in all the residential care centres in the province? How many young people are we unable to service?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you mean residentially?

Mr. Pitman: Yes, just the residential section. That is the only part you can really determine.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Five hundred and eighty.

Mr. Pitman: Children? Five hundred and eighty children. And believe me, there are 580 tragedies that exist in this province for which we do not have a very high priority.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have, as you know, complete sympathy with the point you are making, except that I do not think that this is floundering. As far as I can see, from my limited experience, a dollar spent in this field is stretched as far as—

Mr. Pitman: I suppose it is a matter of priority. But it seems to me that the point has been made that the priorities seem to be pretty high when it comes to a young person who want to go to university, or a community college, or high school, but a retarded child, who surely is in the most fragile position imaginable in our society, gets just the bottom end of the whole bit.

Mr. H. L. Rowntree (York West): Let us cut teachers' salaries and we will get some money available.

Mr. Pitman: Let us get the teachers into these areas. Let us get them into these areas.

Mr. Rowntree: Let us cancel university services. Get some more money from that area over into this area.

Mr. Pitman: I agree with you.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): We have too many university professors who talk and say nothing.

Mr. Pitman: I agree with you.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would say, Mr. Pitman, that we could use more money without doubt—no question. But at the moment—you know, in 1971—we will have no trouble spending the dollars we have.

Mr. Pitman: I am sure of that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But to build up very large centralized staffs in our super institutions, I mean the big ones, goes against the grain a bit too, because we are actually just investing money in a programme that is coming to an end.

Mr. Pitman: A dead loss.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: A dead loss. So I do not have any trouble, and I know Dr. Henderson has no trouble at all, in spending whatever money we can get.

But on one side of it let us feed our dollars, staff and people into our new programme, rather than get caught up in the momentum—and this is what you have to worry about—caught up in the momentum of those who, for good, or ill, or lack of understanding, are prepared to demand every bed in any institution, no matter how big and how remote it is.

Mr. Pitman: I agree with you that what you have to do is to provide a very wide spectrum of services. In fact—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: At the local level.

Mr. Pitman: At the local level. It is about time you recognized that the retarded child has as many needs, and as various a group of needs, as an ordinary child.

And yet it comes right back to where our priorities are completely out of whack—when we have 580 children who are causing possible massive tragedies to families across this province, and many—oh now, Mr. Minister, do not look like that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You are overstating.

Mr. Pitman: You know in many cases a severely retarded child in a family is a major problem for that family to face. There may be thousands of others who are minor tragedies, but I can assure you—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What percentage is that number we have in residence? What is the total number we have in residence, Dr. Henderson?

Dr. Henderson: Six thousand, five hundred.

Mr. Pitman: Well, 6,500 and the 580 you cannot take.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And how many other institutions do we support in relation to

local services in the province? How many children do we have directly involved in your mental health retarded—

Dr. Henderson: Approximately 8,000.

Mr. Pitman: The total number of retarded in Ontario. We are talking about children's institutions?

Dr. Henderson: They are not all children, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Pitman: What I am trying to get at is we can talk about the adults and, assuming you have a cutoff point where you use the term "adult retarded" and where you use—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are the same institutions.

Mr. Pitman: Yes, I recognize that, but I am trying to get the ratio in terms of those who are waiting for treatment from both of these categories.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What is the ratio? What are the gross and demand figures or those waiting? You mentioned 500-odd.

Dr. Henderson: How they fit into age?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, into the gross number in our system insofar as residential care and service care are concerned. How many are identified? That is what you are—

Mr. Pitman: Yes, how many would be identified?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How many identified retarded do we have in our provincial system?

Dr. Henderson: Approximately 8,000.

Mr. Pitman: That is not the total number of retarded? That is just something you had in residential?

Dr. Henderson: In residential care.

Mr. Pitman: In residential care?

Dr. Henderson: That is right, sir.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But identified outside of that we would have people—

Mr. Pitman: The total number of retarded people in the whole Province of Ontario?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but identified in relation to the government programme.

Mr. Ben: How many retarded are there in the whole province?

Mr. Pitman: Yes, let us get that too.

Dr. D. E. Zarfaz (Mental Retardation Services Branch): It is very difficult to tell this.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the retarded of whom we know nothing—the retarded part of local community exercises and the retarded, obviously, whom we do not have in the residential media.

Dr. Zarfaz: We have roughly, on the books of our facilities, nearly 9,000 to 10,000 persons and this varies by the month. There are, in addition to this, in the schools for the retarded two groups. In the educable retarded range there are approximately 40,000 mentally retarded persons attending programmes under The Department of Education in regular schools.

Mr. Pitman: These would not be regular schools. You mean schools for retarded children?

Dr. Zarfaz: No; these are regular schools. These are auxiliary classes — opportunity classes — nearly 40,000. Now in the schools for the trainable there are nearly 6,000. There are, in addition to this, a number of other retarded who are receiving some kinds of support through welfare and through family benefits. This amounts to about 2,500 persons that we know of.

Mr. Pitman: So you have about 50,000 to 60,000?

Dr. Zarfaz: There are 55,000 to 60,000 retarded in the province that we are in some way in contact with. This includes the pre-school programmes that now exist, the workshops that exist, the community residences that exist, the schools and our facilities.

Mr. Pitman: What support do you give to the pre-school programme?

Dr. Zarfaz: The pre-school programme is supported under The Department of Social and Family Services day nurseries branch.

Mr. Pitman: Oh, I see. It is a form of day nursery support.

Dr. Zarfaz: Yes. That supports a retarded person up to the age of nine years, so it does not give support to young adult retarded. It is that kind of a day nursery programme. One per cent probably is a

fairly factual figure—we keep talking of three per cent of the general population being retarded. This figure is a difficult one to tie down; it is a figure that is used. I have used it many times. I do not know whether it is right. In all likelihood, it may be high. It depends on the economic situation in the country at any time and many other factors that may cause a person to come into a situation of need when he may then be determined to be mentally retarded.

Mr. Pitman: In terms of the adult programme the ARC industry is, I guess, about the major programme which is available to trainable adults. To what extent does the government support these ARC industries through actually giving contracts to them? This is something which always interests me. I have visited these industries and I very rarely see government contracts being awarded to these. It seems to me that there are an awful lot of people around here who could be supported by ARC industries.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know the extent. To what extent, by way of contract governmental employment, do we involve ourselves?

Dr. Zarfaz: We are involved, of course, with a grant from the rehabilitation department of Social and Family Services, again with a capital grant and an operating grant.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think the member was thinking of a contract.

Dr. Zarfaz: As far as contract is concerned, I know of only one branch, and that was part of our department, that did in fact provide a contract. I am sorry, there must be others but I am not certain.

Mr. Pitman: I would wonder whether there would be, in view of the fact that the department is in a sense central for the mentally retarded, I would think that it might be useful to see if your central purchasing department did anything at all in terms of a contract.

Mr. Ben: They have not bought even a paper clip yet.

Mr. Pitman: I suspect you are right, but I would like to find out. I would hope this minister might do something about it. I would like to turn for a moment—

Mr. Rowntree: I think the point ought to be made that there are far more programmes in existence in support of this area of activity

than the hon. member for Peterborough indicated at the beginning of his remarks.

Mr. Pitman: How do you mean?

Mr. Rowntree: There is far more activity on the part of the government than the member realizes.

Mr. Pitman: Yes; but there are still 580 children who are not getting any kind of a programme at all.

Mr. Rowntree: That was not the impression you conveyed in your remarks. I think that is the point—

Mr. Pitman: Well I say to you, through the Chairman, sir—

Mr. Rowntree: You still have those other people to take care of.

Mr. Pitman: Pardon?

Mr. Rowntree: You still have them to take care of.

Mr. Pitman: Yes; and I am just suggesting that the policy of this government could very well be looked at in terms of this particular area, and that more money should be put into this area than is put into many other parts of the programmes of this government. I am sure the former minister would agree with that.

Mr. Rowntree: You have strengthened my views about salary increases for a lot of other people and priorities that could be redirected to this area.

Mr. Pitman: I have suggested already that very point.

Mr. Rowntree: I raised it myself.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if I could turn for a moment to this whole area of mentally ill. One of the main recommendations of the report of the committee on the healing arts is that there should be research into the causes and treatment of mental illness. I would like to know what your department is doing in this area? How much research is going on in your department to determine the causes and treatment of mental illness?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I presume we have two kinds of programmes—mental health, and do we have any under health resources?

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, we have an intramural programme, of course, involving

the department itself. Dr. Henderson can give you the details on that and then through the mental health foundation there is a system of grants that provide for research.

Mr. Pitman: Is that the \$288,000 here? That is their payment?

Dr. Charron: The total for the mental health foundation is \$1,138,000 and of that 25 per cent is the operating part of it and 75 per cent for research. That is for grants in aid of research. Dr. Henderson could describe to you the sort of intramural research that is carried out in some of our institutions.

Mr. Pitman: I see.

Dr. Henderson: There is a large range of projects that delve into the areas that relate to mental health as far as biochemistry, community medicine, genetic pathology, pharmacology, psychiatry, psychology, sociology, and so on. This is all co-ordinated, Mr. Chairman as has been indicated as far as funding is concerned for project grants to the mental health foundation. There are research departments in a number of our facilities which are maintained out of the normal budgeting, within that institution which is also part of it.

Mr. Pitman: Can you give me a ball-park figure as to how much money is actually going into research? You have so many millions of dollars going into treatment. How much is going into the research area?

Dr. Henderson: I would think it would be close to \$2 million, sir, on an estimate.

Mr. Pitman: How many projects does that represent then?

Dr. Henderson: One hundred and twenty projects—

Mr. Pitman: Are these all different projects?

Dr. Henderson: Yes.

Mr. Pitman: In a sense they are trying to find in a different way what causes mental illness, are they?

Dr. Henderson: Right; and directed to various aspects of it, and included in that are 17 provincial hospitals for the mentally ill and the retarded, and there are many others that are going on in university centres as well.

Mr. Pitman: What is the result of all of this? Are you getting any directions at all. It seems to me that if this jurisdiction is spending \$2 million, there must be a lot of other jurisdictions spending billions of dollars. Where is it all going? Are you getting any directions at all? Is there any hope in this area? What are the results?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, I am most reluctant to say too much on that. We are currently writing and reading books on research on mental illness. There is considerable progress that would be suggested in some of the chronic conditions, such as schizophrenia, but none of this has provided the kind of breakthrough that we are hoping and looking to achieve in more easily applied and fairly effective methods of prevention and treatment.

Mr. Pitman: You do not feel that you have achieved any breakthrough at all?

Dr. Henderson: Not any miracle cure at all. It is a very difficult area to summarize. There are so many different aspects to it that are under investigation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: With regard to the mentally ill, there are breakthroughs to the extent that our population of mentally ill is dropping.

Dr. Henderson: Not only is the resident population in the facilities dropping, the admissions to institutions are dropping, so we are actually in process of developing more effective methods. Perhaps some of the more startling breakthroughs have been in the field of mental retardation, and some of the physiological and biological conditions which we have been able to identify.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our training levels are dropping in mental retardation. Our ability to communicate with the retarded in going lower down the scale each year, is it not?

Mr. Pitman: You know you are boggling my imagination.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. We used to abandon this at a certain age level. Now we are reaching down lower and lower into the retardation scale, and are able to develop at least communication and sometimes education.

Mr. Pitman: But you said that the incidence of mental illness is going down?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. Now the amount—

Mr. Pitman: Oh, residential care—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —the residential care.

Mr. Pitman: In other words, we are dealing with them in the community?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Or medically, or by use of drugs, or by—

Mr. Pitman: Or outpatient care in the psychiatric wings of hospitals?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. In other words, instead of being loaded with a total increase as one might have expected in the residential population of our institutions, this is lowering.

Mr. Pitman: Has there been any further development of the regional diagnostic centres? Remember this was the in thing about six years ago, was it not, the white paper that we were going to have diagnostic centres?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, our regional centres have their diagnostic function.

Mr. Pitman: Or are you simply using hospitals now? What has happened to the whole programme that was to establish—

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, I think the member is referring to the eight regional centres identified—

Mr. Pitman: Right.

Dr. Henderson: —in the white paper programme for children.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Rae Grant—

Dr. Henderson: They are in various stages of development and are still identified and are being—

Mr. Pitman: Well, what year was it that this report came out?

Dr. Henderson: Nineteen sixty-seven. January, 1967.

Mr. Pitman: January of 1967. So it is now four years later and you have not got one of them operating yet?

Dr. Henderson: That is not true. They are all operating, sir.

Mr. Pitman: They are all operating?

Dr. Henderson: Yes.

Mr. Pitman: But they are not new buildings. They are operating as functions within the hospital setting?

Or. Henderson: Some of them are.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the Royal Ottawa is one, is it not?

Dr. N. I. Rae Grant (Children's Services Board): Mr. Chairman, they are in different stages of development. At the IODE hospitals at Windsor the children's unit—

Dr. Henderson: A completely new renovated facility.

Dr. Rae Grant: —was a renovated facility. And they have an inpatient department for the first time. The one at Kingston has been at the Kingston Psychiatric Hospital and has been functioning. The regional centre at Kingston, the Kingston Psychiatric Hospital, only has a 16-bed unit but they have reduced their length of stay of children in that unit to 13 weeks, so they are able to treat a much larger number of children. They have very active community education and consultation programmes, and they have outpatient assessment of treatment. They have an adolescent service, although they do not have a definitive unit yet.

Each of the regional centres is developing so much faster than others. The new buildings of Hamilton, they will be finished by July. It is hoped to get patients in in September after the staff have been trained. So there is a good deal of movement.

Mr. Pitman: I see. Well, that sounds a little hopeful. There was a suggestion also in this report of the Canadian Healing Acts, that the departments of psychology in universities should be encouraged to develop some kind of clinical operation, in association with their departments. Has this gone forward at all? Is anything happening in this area?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think so. In university to university.

Mr. Pitman: Well, one that I think has one and is now being phased out, is the University of Guelph, because they could not get funding for it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, the University of Ottawa has a very strong—

Mr. Pitman: Guelph. Guelph. Guelph.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but I am just thinking of Ottawa. They have quite a strong programme. Guelph, I do not know.

Mr. Pitman: Well, I think in this particular case there was one at Guelph and they were dealing with children with learning difficulties and were dealing with a number of the local school boards in bringing these children in, and were doing a lot of it on the basis of a private grant, and also the university was supporting the actual research, or at least the educative nature of this particular project. But apparently the clinical aspect is now being phased out because they cannot get any grants either from Education or from Health or from Social and Family Services.

Dr. Henderson: My understanding, Mr. Chairman, is that was a public health research grant. It was a project grant over a specific period of time to the university. I do not know the details of the funding arrangements.

Mr. Pitman: I wonder if the minister will look into that, because it seemed to me to be a very successful programme and it will not be there.

It seemed to me that it was in direct opposition to what really is established in this report: that the departments of psychology in the universities of Ontario should be concerned themselves with this particular area and there should be a major thrust in the direction of making these departments of psychology relate to the clinical needs of the people of Ontario, and I have not seen very much happen in that area as yet, and I hope to see it happen very quickly.

Is the minister going to bring a psychiatric Act in at this time in this Legislature?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no.

Mr. Pitman: Are there not changes in The Psychiatry Act which are proposed or expected?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not that I have been dealing with.

Mr. Pitman: I understand there were going to be amendments to that Act, that were coming forward.

Dr. Charron: The Mental Health Act?

Mr. Pitman: I am dealing with psychiatry.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you have a special statute relating to psychiatric—

Dr. Henderson: No, Mr. Chairman, the only amendments that I think might be under consideration are those required as a result of the McRuer investigation and the general changes that relate to the handling of review courts and tribunals and all such legislation. There is nothing that is specific for the psychiatric hospitals, to my knowledge.

Mr. Pitman: I understood that there was some change in the legislation which was bothering some of the departments of psychology of the universities which did not know whether they might be dealt with because of this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, that is all I think I want to say.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: There are also two others who would like to speak.

Mr. Ben: Well, I will not take long. In listening to the words “thrust” and “overview” and “input” and “funding” instead of financing, I have come to the conclusion that the reason we have fewer people in mental institutions is because we have got jargon that nobody can understand and we cannot prove these guys are nuts.

Mr. Pitman: You mean the ones on the inside think the ones on the outside are crazy.

Mr. Ben: I do not think I can contribute anything at the present time. I am willing to pass.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Shulman.

Mr. Shulman: I would like the results of the investigation into the selling of drugs to patients at Whitby that was done by your department.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Henderson.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, this situation was investigated at our request by the OPP. They went into it and carried out—

Mr. Shulman: I cannot hear.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Henderson, could you get a little closer to the mike?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the investigation was carried out in response to a report that drugs were being made available at the hospital. It was done at our request through the Ontario Provincial Police. They spent several weeks checking various aspects of

hospital activity and while they came up with the general impression that because there were a number of people who had come into the hospital with a drug problem and seemingly had some drugs with them or access to them, there was no evidence whatsoever that drugs were being brought into the hospital or being made available by a hospital staff to patients in the hospital.

The only possible explanation for any use of drugs on the grounds appeared to be individuals who were known to be involved in the drug situation bringing some materials in with them when they were brought to hospital that had not been discovered.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, that is not the whole story, unfortunately. This winter I received a letter that was smuggled out from one of the patients at the Whitby hospital, saying he was being held incommunicado and would I come down to see him. I did go down to Whitby, and after some difficulty I got in to see this patient. It turned out—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot understand why—

Mr. Shulman: Let me tell you.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —or smuggled out.

Mr. Shulman: Can I tell you the story?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but define your—

Mr. Shulman: It was brought out by another patient, by a visitor to another patient, and mailed to me. The circumstances were that this patient had been accused by the staff of smuggling drugs into the hospital and selling them to patients, as a result of which he was placed so that even his parents were not allowed to visit him.

I checked with his parents to confirm this, incidentally, and with the staff at the hospital. The thing I find most disturbing about it is that while he was being held in this state of incommunicableness, if that is the word, the OPP or the police were at the hospital investigating this very thing but were not told about this man and did not interview him.

So we have a report from the OPP saying they know nothing about it, were unable to find any evidence of this, yet they did not interview the key man. Furthermore, the day after I visited the hospital he was discharged.

Now, I would like an explanation of that little story.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot give it.

Dr. Henderson: Well, Mr. Chairman, if we could have the name of the patient we would be glad to provide any explanation we can get. I have no information about a patient being held incommunicado in this type of situation.

Mr. Shulman: The superintendent of the hospital certainly has, because when I went down there the doctor—

Dr. Henderson: Could we get the name of the patient?

Mr. Shulman: Your superintendent has the name; I do not have it here with me at the moment. But at the time I went down, I first interviewed the acting chief—I believe he was an Oriental physician—and he had to get permission from the superintendent before I was allowed in to see the patient on the ward.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, I think it should be pointed out that there is not a superintendent at the hospital, there is a hospital administration—

Mr. Shulman: Medical director.

Dr. Henderson: And there would be a medical director who is responsible for matters of this kind.

Mr. Shulman: Yes, it was the medical director.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, you find the name and we will—

Mr. Shulman: Your staff already has the name; at least at the hospital they have it. I have it upstairs.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, let us get your name because that will be the right name.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. Shulman: Wait a minute, I am not through. I am sorry, go ahead.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, before I forget it, I want to say that I think the Ontario Hospital at London is doing a very fine job. At least, they seem to have a very good staff, the attitude of the

staff members is very good, and I think they should be commended on the work they are doing.

I am somewhat intrigued by the idea that these 580 remaining children who need residential care—representing as they do about two per cent of the total—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: One per cent.

Mr. Burr: One per cent of the total—could not be accommodated this year. In your budget you have a 50 per cent increase in the programme administration from \$21 million to \$31 million and in the patients services from \$139 to \$158, almost \$20 million.

In the press reports of the budget speech on April 27, one of the highlights was “additional staff to be provided in hospitals for mentally retarded children at an additional cost of \$20 million.”

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is inaccurate.

Mr. Burr: The press report was inaccurate?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Burr: Well, at any rate, it is not inaccurate—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That gives the impression you are equating staff directly to \$20 million.

Mr. Burr: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not so.

Mr. Burr: Okay. Then the press report is inaccurate, but at any rate there is a—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not the fault of the press. The press release upon which that press report is based is inaccurate.

Mr. Burr: There is an inaccuracy there. However, your department has \$30 million extra this year to work with.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, an increase. There is a difference between an increase and in having something extra to what you are spending.

Mr. Burr: Okay, I am sorry.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Ask your wife.

Mr. Burr: I must watch the terminology. They have \$30 million more this year than they had last year to work with—with which to work, if you want to improve it grammatically.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, it was not the grammar; it is that the costs keep going up.

Mr. Burr: Now, of these 580 children who need residential care, a certain number of them are urgent, very urgent, most urgent. Could you tell me first of all about how many would come into that category?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would judge all.

Dr. Henderson: The report for the end of March, as far as urgent patients on the waiting list of the retarded are concerned, was 338, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But the parents would consider them all urgent, would they not?

Mr. Burr: All right, you have 338 urgent cases. In the estimates last year, you will recall that the then Minister of Health (Mr. Wells) said that the Picton air base, I believe it was, would be taken over and this would provide 600 spaces for children.

In a communication I had with the minister, Mr. Chairman, he indicated that it would take three years to get up to this capacity of 600 because of the need to train staff. Largely for that reason, I suppose, I imagine that you will say now that the funds are another factor.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, not here. We are moving 200 of our staff this year. In relation to Picton, it will be some 27.

Dr. Henderson: It will be 273.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, 273, so we are not fiddling with it.

Mr. Burr: How many children will that take of the 580?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Within this fiscal year, or calendar year, or what?

Mr. Burr: Of the 580—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps Dr. Henderson could describe the patient build-up. It matches the rather massive staff input of 270-odd that is going in there.

Mr. Chairman: Dr. Zarfaz.

Dr. Zarfaz: Can I talk to this?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Dr. Zarfaz: At the present time, Mr. Chairman, 30 young women have been admitted

now. Ten have been admitted and there will be 10 every week for the next three weeks which will fill the first group of homes that are ready in the village complex. Beginning June 15, there will be an additional number of homes made ready. It takes a little time to get these facilities ready and this is what we are in the process of doing now. We will have 60 young people there by early in July, I would think.

We anticipate the next group of homes to be ready on August 15, at which time we will begin to arrange for transfers of school age children mostly from Smiths Falls, to the 21 homes which will be ready at that time. So we anticipate again admission of 10 or 12 or 15 persons a week up until we get our school population in those 21 houses filled.

The balance of the homes will be occupied as we can fill them and staff them during this coming year, but we expect that probably the village unit will be limited to about 120 persons during this coming year.

In the fall of this year we expect that the first unit of the Craig unit should be ready. I cannot guarantee this because it is going to contract—Public Works is expected to go to contract sometime in June. They are not extensive renovations, not very extensive renovations anyway, but at the same time we are not sure of the date of the first of the Craig unit. When that is ready, which we have anticipated by the middle of October, we will begin to admit some of the more seriously retarded into that unit, again at the rate of probably 10 or 15 a week until it is filled.

There is the problem also of renovation of the kitchen facilities which are rather outdated, but we anticipate that this also will be ready at the time the Craig unit is ready, which we hope will be by the middle or the end of October of this year.

Mr. Burr: In choosing the children that are to go there, you are taking the emergency ones first?

Dr. Zarfaz: We are taking the transfers from Smiths Falls first.

Mr. Burr: Well, what does that mean?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It means that Smiths Falls is overcrowded. We are relieving the pressure on Smiths Falls as a first priority.

Mr. Burr: Then you will not be taking any new ones into the system for some time?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will be able to take some in, I presume?

Dr. Zarfes: Yes, I could perhaps tell you the number that we have admitted to our facilities over the last year. There are about 1,200 admissions, I believe, and we hope to be able to maintain our rate of admissions roughly about that same level. We are trying our best, of course, to balance and reduce our overcrowding and to encourage discharge at the same time.

As we try to keep this in fine balance it is difficult, and we recognize that perhaps some of the 580 will not, of course, get in. We try to deal with them as quickly as we can and the most urgent ones we attempt to admit first.

Mr. Burr: Well, in this small, residential or community type of treatment that the minister mentioned at the beginning, the residences hold, I suppose, anywhere from six to 10 children, would that be it?

Dr. Zarfes: As what?

Mr. Burr: Would you mean that a home in a community would house, say, from six to 10 children? Is that about the size of it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the kind of unit that we have at Picton?

Mr. Burr: No, the kind you said you were going to scatter throughout the north and throughout the south.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am only guessing, and I will need to be corrected or backed up on this, but I think they would be larger than that.

Mr. Burr: Larger than that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Larger than that because it is not entirely a home media we want them in. Nor do we want them in an institution in the old sense, but these are a home or a house. Some of them will be clusters, will they not?

Dr. Zarfes: Yes, that is right. They will be homes which have a smaller population at one point, but the accommodation will be as close to the usual home and family kind of groupings and living styles as we can make it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you follow what I mean? We will cluster them. As I understand it, our hope is to cluster them physically and as close to a home maybe as

we can get. But of course we need to cluster them because of the common facilities in regard to teaching and training and recreation are concerned.

Mr. Burr: Have you any plans as yet, say, down in the Windsor area for one of these?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, we do not have plans in the sense that they are on a drawing board, ready for bidding at all. This is mainly because the thinking has been progressing very quickly in this field. For instance, plans drawn for institutions three years ago are no longer considered appropriate. They are out of date.

Mr. Burr: Well, will these homes in the community—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They may not be in the community in the sense of being on city blocks.

Mr. Burr: Near the community?

Dr. Zarfes: I might say we have a committee working now, meeting with me—and I have a representative from the Ontario Association for the Mentally Retarded on it—and we are attempting to design just what you are asking now, to determine how we can best provide this kind of service.

The recognition is that the rather static kind of residential care that we have provided in the past is just not appropriate for this time. We are trying to make a combination of outpatient daycare and diagnostic services available in a manner so that we can have a great deal of flexibility in the provision of these services in both residential and activity programming. We are just at the process of working out the details of this so that we can finalize recommendations for the minister.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, I will be through in a moment, I think, at least. One thing I am trying to discover is what can be done for at least two of the children I have in mind in my area whose activities—

Mr. Ben: Do not bring in specific cases.

Mr. Burr: No, I am talking in a general way. I am not asking for special—

Mr. Ben: That should be done in private.

Mr. Burr: No, I am just talking about these two children who are really wrecking the homes in which they live, physically, emotionally and mentally. Because the new

facilities are going to be in Picton, I think the minister indicated that this would be out of the area, out of the Windsor area. I am wondering what is going to happen to children from the southwestern part of the province who are in this top priority urgent category.

What does the future hold for them? Is it two or three years away that there is some hope, or is there anything closer than that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, I cannot see our new programme taking any more than four or five years to develop. Each case, you mentioned one or two, will have to be dealt with individually for the time being, but the total decentralization programme—I probably will not be here—but I do not think we need—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I hope I find a really challenging portfolio! I do not think either public desire or public wants or the time frame in which we are moving suggest that this new programme should be more than four or five years in becoming affective. It is not as though we are starting fresh. In our newer institutions that we have been building for—how many years now, 10 years? How many years?

Dr. Henderson: Five, maybe.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Five years at the minimum; of course, it is marching along with us. We are not building any more of the large institutions.

Mr. Burr: But you have taken care of about 98 or 99 per cent of the children who need this special residential care right now. It seems to me if you could just make an extra effort to get the other one per cent in—I know that there are more to come in the future—but if you could just make an extra effort and get the extra one per cent in, so that we could say that Ontario has 100 per cent of the children looked after; We know that more will come in future years, but we could say that we are then up to the 100 per cent.

It seems to me that we should not fall short of the 100 per cent when we are so close to it. It could not take that many more millions of dollars. You should go after Treasury and say "Look here, Ontario's honour is at stake, give me what I need."

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Burr: I will go with you.

Mr. Ben: I want to say that I agree neither with the last speaker nor with the hon. member for Peterborough, nor our guests. They have not said anything contrary, your staff here, when it comes to the incarceration of these children. I do not believe that we ought to increase our institutionalizing programme.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is what I have been talking about all along.

Mr. Ben: None of them has had the intestinal fortitude to say that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What do you mean, "intestinal fortitude"?

Mr. Ben: The member for Peterborough and this fellow here—all they did was cause my head to ring and I could not talk for a while.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: I could not help but note that there are two types of programmes going on in Ontario, especially in Mississauga. One is the institutionalization programme, and the other is the one that tries to gear the parents to look after the children in the home. I have a great fear and a dread, Mr. Chairman, that the more bed space you create for these retarded children, the more retarded children you are going to find to fill those beds—and in this particular instance, I put the word "retarded" in quotation marks.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not like to talk about beds at all. I really do not. I agree with you. The bed is not what we are looking at; it is the service.

Mr. Ben: This is the thing that scared me: Everybody said more beds, spend another million on more beds. If you keep on putting retarded children into institutions, parents who before desired or were content to look after their children in a home surrounding—and this is what you were trying to create, remember, Mr. Minister, a home surrounding—will also want to place their children in institutions.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Home affinity, if I may.

Mr. Ben: All right, go on. Play on words.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not going to play on words. I will tell you the kind of thing we are dealing with.

Mr. Ben: Let me finish; I only have about 30 seconds. The fact remains that you are trying to keep a setting that is closed setting, if you want to call it an affinity home or anything else, a group setting or a cluster setting—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, because they may not be resident for more than two or three days of the week, perhaps only one day of the week.

Mr. Ben: Fine, but what I want is grand-mamma and grandpapa to be in the home; I want children to be in a home too. If we are going to spend more money to try to keep as many children who are not at the very bottom of the IQ scale—what do we call the lowest; is it an idiot or a moron?

Dr. Zarfas: Severely and profoundly retarded.

Mr. Ben: All right, severely and profoundly retarded children. Those are nothing more than vegetables, and I can understand parents just not being able to cope with this problem and turning them over to you. But those who are trainable—that was the phrase that was used—those I would still like to see as much as possible remain in the home. And this to me is where the money should be spent to train the parents, if necessary, to look after these children.

The member for Peterborough is talking about going and volunteering services on a one-to-one ratio; why not let the mothers be on a one-to-one ratio?

Mr. Ruston: Time.

Mr. Chairman: This meeting is adjourned until 11 o'clock but I need a motion to adjourn. Furthermore, I am going to notify the Clerk of the House to put a notice on the order paper that we will sit on estimates next Wednesday. Monday is a statutory holiday, as you know, and it does not—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Chairman: But it does not look as though we are going to finish anywhere near this by Tuesday. We have two hours tomorrow and then all day Tuesday; so Wednesday it is at the wish of the committee. But it counts against you people; you have 75 days from the time the budget is through to sit in committee.

I think this is what we should do; however, that is up to your decision. We have invited people from University Affairs to come in here to be heard on educational matters on Wednesday, so we have got to cancel it with these people. That is what we are up against.

Mr. Ferrier: Cancel it.

Mr. Chairman: How can we sit in committee on estimates and call these people in? It cannot be done.

Mr. Shulman: Then you cannot have your health committee.

Mr. Chairman: We have not invited them yet, but we have them listed to invite.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): We have public accounts on Wednesday too, Mr. Chairman, because they ran into this problem on private bills.

Mr. Chairman: I know, but we have made a schedule that we are going to call these people, and therefore we cannot.

Mr. Shulman: We cannot—

Mr. Chairman: That is right. So that is understood. I apologize to the member for Windsor-Walkerville. The other day you were not first, but you will be first tomorrow morning.

Mr. B. Newman: I told you you did not have to apologize.

The committee adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p.m.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

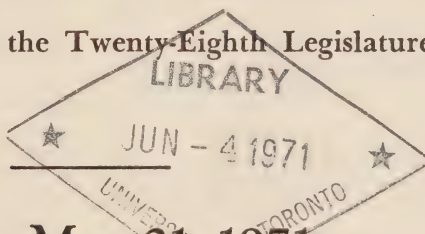
STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature



Friday, May 21, 1971

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1971

The committee met at 11:10 o'clock, a.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. W. Newman in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

On vote 703:

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman, I believe you were first. Right?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday as we adjourned we were discussing the whole gamut of grants to community mental health facilities and so forth.

At the outset, I would like to express my thanks to the members of the department here for the way they have treated the requests which I put to them concerning parents wanting their children taken care of in one of the facilities—I specifically refer to Cedar Springs. The letters received from the department in reply certainly alleviated a lot of tension on the part of parents and were very much appreciated.

But one of the things that still does disturb me, Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, is that there are still a lot of parents who do not know where to turn when it comes to having children who are mentally disturbed or maybe even in some instances cerebral palsied. As was mentioned yesterday, there is a complete disruption of the home; there are all types of problems caused as a result of them attempting to keep their own at home.

I know we should attempt to have the parents always take care of the children wherever possible but there are cases where that is impossible, and if in any way we can alleviate the tensions and the problems that do arise in the home as a result of having such a disadvantaged child, we should go all out to do that.

I can recall talking in the House about eight or nine years ago and making comments concerning Cedar Springs at the time: that

we were building a monster, that it would have been better to have spread that type of facility over the communities. Originally, the children were not hospitalized there; they had to be sent farther away. The community does appreciate the fact that there is Cedar Springs, but it is much too large a hospital. We should come along in communities and set up facilities that are by far smaller, not only to accommodate the given community but to accommodate residents from a small area rather than a large geographical area.

In the city of Windsor itself we have the community hospital—I think it is called a regional hospital—at IODE. It is very much appreciated, but I would like to ask of the minister what plans the department has as far as size is concerned for the community psychiatric wing of the IODE hospital?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): Dr. Henderson?

Dr. H. W. Henderson (Mental Health Division): Mr. Minister, the present planning and the requirements of the community, as far as the services in the IODE complex are concerned, are for 80 beds for adults and up to 40 beds for children.

Mr. B. Newman: Would the department have any idea as to the number of Windsor children and adults who would be hospitalized in Cedar Springs and elsewhere?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, may I clarify? Is the member talking about retarded who are not dealt with at the IODE hospital or in the community service?

Mr. B. Newman: I am really referring to those who would be placed in Cedar Springs and who possibly could have been transferred back into IODE.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the IODE hospital is a facility for the treatment of mentally ill; it is not a facility for the retarded, although they do have an outpatient service for children which does the initial assessment and provides assistance of that order.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. I was a bit confused there; that has been clarified for me.

Then is there not the need for a facility in a community to take care of the mentally retarded, the type who today are being placed in Cedar Springs? I would assume that Windsor would place maybe 150 to 200 in Cedar Springs and other Ontario hospitals. Surely we have arrived at the day when we should provide that type of facility more or less on a county basis or even on a large municipal basis, so that parents could visit the institution and show a little TLC for their own offspring. Maybe in that fashion we would allow that disadvantaged child to enjoy a little more of life in a better fashion than the child does today.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This was discussed at some length yesterday.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, you did not refer to this portion of it, to the best of my information, Mr. Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Broadly speaking, what you have described is our policy, which is to de-institutionalize—if we can use such a word—or decentralize our operation generally and place these facilities closer to the people and the community.

You were dealing in the same phrases with the mentally retarded and the emotionally disturbed. This is what I have been mentioning; this is particularly true of the emotionally disturbed and will be true with our regional psychiatric centres with regard to certainly the short-term psychiatric problems.

Mr. B. Newman: How long-range is the programme before you can foresee yourself setting up residential facilities for the mentally retarded on a large municipality basis or on a metro basis?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know that it will be on that large a basis. We may be able to, if we can finance and organize it; we may be able to break it down on an even lower level of geographical and community organization. I do not see that it should necessarily be equated with the artificial municipal boundaries.

You mentioned it yourself a moment ago, that the point is to place these institutions in relation to the actual community. That will be the point of our distribution, rather than looking at what I would say would be the artificial significance of municipal boundaries, metropolitan or otherwise.

Mr. B. Newman: I will be very parochial in my remarks here. Windsor represents 235,000 people; surely with a population of that size there must be the need of residential facilities for the mentally retarded in that community.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. B. Newman: Then how long-range is the programme before you can foresee, Mr. Minister—provided you are still in that capacity—before such a facility would be developed in a community with the assistance of the department or developed by the department?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will be aiming at an overall programme—and this is very rough when I discuss this time frame—but I would think the whole provincial programme should be substantially in action in a decentralized way within a five-year period. Where Windsor would stand in that I could not guess, but I presume it probably has a very high priority.

It will not be all at once, of course, all around the province. For instance, I think Windsor will probably be a high priority in relation to retarded children's services and be early in the five-year time frame, as I have mentioned. I know in eastern Ontario we have a somewhat different problem; we need it in the field of psychiatric services. So this kind of balancing will go on throughout the whole province.

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask of the minister if there is consideration in his overall programme for residential facilities for the cerebral palsied? I noted that the Cerebral Palsy Association in the Windsor and district area has requested such a facility time and time again.

Dr. Henderson: The public hospital service is under OHSC in the general hospitals rather than mental health.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we will leave that, if we may, so that we can deal with it under the general hospitals item.

Mr. B. Newman: All right, I will ask that later then.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier was next, but I think he yielded to Mr. Shulman.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Two very brief matters, Mr. Chairman. Last night I brought up the matter of the patient who

was accused of smuggling and selling drugs to patients at Whitby and the minister asked me to supply the name. The name is Frank Harkness.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Thank you.

Mr. Shulman: I gave it to the former minister, who wrote him on January 5 of this year.

The other matter is, the day before yesterday a delegation of your employees from the Ontario mental health centre at 999 Queen Street, the Queen Street Mental Health Centre, came to see me and they were complaining very bitterly about two matters. The first the minister is not directly responsible for, which is, the salaries, but they did bring the salary schedule to me. I would just like to mention it because the minister may now be aware of the duties involved and the salaries that are paid.

For males, the duties involve, to mix cleaning solution, sweep, wash, strip, dust, polish furniture, wash walls, ceilings, woodwork, tiles and equipment, collect and dispose of waste paper, garbage, clean and disinfect washrooms, maintain adequate sanitary supplies, report defective equipment, remove windows, clean and install storm windows, move furniture, unload supplies from trucks, wash windows, shovel snow, sweep outside, maintenance needs, elementary repairs, direct patient helpers engaged in cleaning duties, run errands, deliver mail supplies, lock doors, switch off utilities, regulate simple heating systems, requisition their own cleaning supplies.

They have to have a grade 8 education, experience in cleaning work and the use of cleaning materials and equipment, willingness to co-operate, ability to give cleaning directions to patients if required, physical fitness. Now, for all of these duties they are given the starting salary of \$1.69, which can work up, apparently, to a maximum of \$2.54. This is not even a living wage and it is impossible for these people to manage. It is as simple as that.

I realize that you are not directly responsible for salaries and that is not the major point I want to belabour you with at the moment, but what I do want to lay to your door is the major complaint they came with, which is, small as these salaries are at the Queen Street Mental Health Centre, apparently in an effort to save money the number of staff has been cut back. So that now, where there used to be three people doing duties

which they said kept them going full-time, they now have two or in some cases, only one in some wards.

They asked me to come in actually, with them, to do the job one day and they were going to sneak me in, but they were worried—frankly I was not sure I would be able to do the job, but they were also worried that someone might lose a job if I was found. I am asking you, Mr. Minister—you can perhaps do this more easily than I—to go down and see what is going on there, because their staff has been cut back, the duties have been expanded and here we have people literally slaving for a salary which amounts to—I do not know, a 40-hour week, \$68 a week, going up to a maximum of \$100 a week, and that maximum, of course, is after many years of work. It is just not humane.

I agree salaries are not your responsibility, but the first thing you must do is to get more staff there. They are being terribly overworked. Two weeks ago I had one of the cleaning ladies come to see me because she had injured her leg, and she was terribly upset about taking time off work because if she did it meant everyone else down there—there was no one to replace her—everyone else was going to have to work even harder and it would cause an inordinate and impossible situation for the rest of the staff. You are short of staff. You need more staff. What are you going to do about it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: At the moment I do not think it would be appropriate for me to make announcements or express opinions on this because I am advised that this particular group is going through a revision at the moment. I will accept your invitation, if you want to put it that way, as soon as the arbitration is over.

Mr. Shulman: But they have been complaining for two years now.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are formally in arbitration, I am advised, at the moment.

Mr. Shulman: When did that begin?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: When did that begin?

Mr. R. Oss (Personnel Branch): The salary categories which include the cleaning staffs are reviewed on a cyclical review basis, just like all other civil service salaries. This particular category, which includes cleaners and many other institutional categories, is due for a review and revision effective January 1 of

this year. The matter was under negotiation for some time and is presently before the Civil Service Arbitration Board, and the salary award or decision is expected shortly.

As far as existing salaries are concerned, the minimum salary for male cleaners at the moment is \$2.54 an hour, or \$101.60 a week. The second rate of this same range, which they can attain after some service, is \$2.64 an hour, or \$105.60 a week. This is presently in the official civil service salary schedules for male cleaners.

Mr. Shulman: Perhaps we are talking about two different things, but it says here, building cleaner (1a); and it says here, salary range \$1.69 to \$2.64.

Mr. Oss: The building cleaner (1), Mr. Chairman, is the rate for lady cleaners. The minimum rate for male cleaners at the moment, on intake, is \$2.09 an hour, or \$83.60 a week. The second step in the range is \$2.17 an hour, or \$86.80 a week. This is the current official civil service salary schedule.

Mr. Shulman: Let me ask you, inasmuch as at the Queen Street hospital men and women cleaners both do the same job, why are they paid different scales of pay?

Mr. Oss: It is my understanding that there is a distinct difference in the duties between the male and female cleaners. This matter was looked into some months ago—I believe a year or two ago—where there was a small group of males who, for some temporary reason, were not asked to perform the full male cleaning duties—in other words, they were not utilized in tasks they really should have been. This was under investigation. The date escapes me now, but it was all sorted out, and at the present time, to the best of our knowledge, this situation does not prevail. There is a distinct difference in the kind of work carried out by the male and female cleaners; the males being required to do heavier work and undertake more onerous physical tasks than the ladies are.

Mr. Shulman: But how can that be, Mr. Minister, and Mr. Chairman, if you have on one ward perhaps only female cleaners and on another only male cleaners? Obviously, they are going to have to do the same jobs.

In any case, it is not the salaries I want to discuss with you, it is the shortage of staff, which is not under arbitration, and that is the point I am bringing up with you now. We will leave the salary aside, if it is

under arbitration, fine. But the reason these people came to my office, primarily, was because of the fact they are tremendously overworked. Leave aside the underpaid—they are underpaid—but they are tremendously overworked because there are not enough people there. You have too few workers doing too much work. The point I am trying to bring to your attention now—perhaps you could ask your advisers about it—is, why has the number of cleaning staff been cut back in recent years and what are you going to do about it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Henderson?

Dr. Henderson: The staff has not been cut back in total; there may have been some rearrangement of staff at the hospital in accordance with their best judgement of needs.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The staff as a whole has not been cut back or reduced?

Mr. Shulman: Well, all right. It does not help any if you have extra nursing staff, it does not help the cleaners any if you have the same number of total staff. If you had 1,000 staff before and you have 1,000 staff now, it does not help the cleaners if there are fewer cleaners.

Dr. Henderson: I cannot tell you specifically—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But they allege they are overworked?

Mr. Shulman: They sure do. And they would like someone to come down and take a look.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will do that.

Mr. Shulman: Okay. When?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will wait until this arbitration is finished and then go down.

Mr. Shulman: The arbitration is about the salaries; I am talking about—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I know but they do relate. If you are arbitrating over salaries, I would think that that will bring into consideration how hard you work and what your responsibilities are. I do not want to muddy the arbitration by a misunderstanding—

Mr. Shulman: When will the arbitration be over?

Mr. Oss: The award is expected in the next few weeks, I understand, Mr. Chairman, but it is in the hands of the chairman of the arbitration board, Judge Anderson. That is all I can say.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: For a few weeks, why do we not keep our fingers out of it?

Mr. Shulman: All right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Mr. Chairman, I regret that Mr. Dymond is not here this morning because I wanted to discuss a matter that he and I raised about feldshers. I also regret I have to repeat something I said last year. One of the trials and tribulations of a member of the opposition is that we must continually train and educate a new series of ministers in their jobs. You will forgive me if I am a little repetitious in this regard.

We were discussing last year the programme in Russia. In 1959, the United States sent a special mission to study mental health in the USSR and they published what they call their Special Report of the First US Mission on Mental Health to the USSR.

The members of the mission delegation, so that you will understand their qualifications, were Dr. Walter E. Barton, medical director of the American Psychiatric Association; Mr. Mike Gorman, executive director of the National Committee against Mental Illness; the Hon. David L. Bazelon, chief judge of the United States Court of Appeal for the District of Columbia circuit; Dr. Alan D. Miller, commissioner, New York State Department of Mental Hygiene; Doctor—he is a PhD—Phillip Sirotkin, associate director of the National Institute of Mental Health; Dr. Harold M. Visotsky, director of the Illinois Department of Mental Health; and the chairman was Stanley F. Yolles—Dr. Yolles—director of the National Institute of Mental Health.

They carried out an extensive investigation into the subject matter of mental health in the USSR and they had very laudatory things to say about it. They had more and better facilities; more doctors per patient; more nurses and so on. They had this to say:

The key to success of their programme lies in the abundance of professional staff. The average neuropsychiatric dispensary, for example, typically has 15 to 25 psychiatrists on its staff and there are 19 such dispensaries in Moscow alone.

Can you imagine the fantastic number, if I may digress?

Staffs of the medical units in factories are of comparable size. The automotive factory visited by the delegation in Moscow had a medical unit staffed by 150 physicians and 450 other medical personnel. It is true that this was the largest automobile factory in the Soviet Union but the size of the health service staff was reported to be similar elsewhere in relation to the number of factory employees.

By the same token, the emergency system is richly staffed by American standards. In Leningrad, for example, the psychiatric sub-station of the emergency service was operated by 11 psychiatrists—and 22 feldshers—all available for immediate ambulance duty.

If I may digress here, I should point out that in 1917 they had 30,000 physicians in the USSR. Currently, there are 525,000 physicians who are more densely and equitably spread throughout the country, and 35,000 medical students who graduate each year. To get a ratio, we would have to multiply or rather divide that by 10, taking the population at roughly 200 million to find out how far behind we may be in the production of similar services. I think their population at the present time is about the 200 million category, give or take some.

The staff-patient ratios are equally impressive in the urban mental hospitals. At the Kashchenko Mental Hospital in Moscow, there were 160 psychiatrists and 2,600 beds 1-16 ratio. Similarly, there were more than 800 nurses. At the Vinnitsa Mental Hospital with 1,900 patients there were more than 100 physicians of whom 87 were psychiatrists, more than 450 nurses and over 700 ward orderlies. Over all, the patient-staff ratios were virtually 1:1.

I appreciate, Mr. Minister, that theirs is a different system. If it is psychiatrists that they need they just produce psychiatrists; if it is nurses they need, they produce nurses, simply by determining who can get into an institute of higher learning.

They can simply say, "You want to be an engineer? Well, it just so happens that we need psychiatrists. If you want to go to university, you become a psychiatrist, or if you want to go to high school, you become a nurse." Under that system, perhaps, we might even have the same ratio. However, the fact remains that they are considerably ahead of us, even though they have a forced system or producing what they want. They are too far ahead and perhaps we are too far

behind. There is a lot of room for improvement.

What I wanted to do was actually define for the benefit of the committee what a feldsher does in the USSR.

To give both sides of the picture, I will quote again:

The delegation did not have the opportunity to become informed on the particulars of training of medical personnel other than that of physicians. However, we were told that nurses may be trained in various types of hospitals, in any of several medical specialty settings, including psychiatry; but that under the law nurses can practice anywhere. A nurse completes training in three years; she is encouraged to continue training, if she wishes, and many do so—some to complete training as doctors of medicine.

This is something that is just impossible here. This is from this book again, for the benefit of the member for Ontario (Mr. Dymond):

The feldsher (medical technician) receives four years of training, including three years basic nursing training and one year of training in order that he may assume responsibility for minor surgery, emergencies, traumatic surgery, and to qualify as a technician specialist in a selected field of medical service. In medical work, the feldsher has more prestige than does the nurse and is trained to accept greater individual responsibility.

This contradicts the picture that the good doctor painted of the feldsher.

Mr. Chairman, I believe you were sometimes sitting in the chair last year and you may have heard this. But I had to repeat it for the benefit of those who were not on the committee last year and for your benefit also. We have a long way to go in treatment of our ill.

One other point I would like to draw to this committee's attention is their home service, which is something that we just do not have here. We cannot get doctors to visit homes, for instance, here except perhaps in an extreme emergency, but in the USSR psychiatrists make home visits. I am trying to find that particular section which shows their responsibility. They have clinics spread out throughout the cities; it is what they call continuity of care.

Since the basic operating principle of Soviet psychiatry is continuity of care, that care continues whether the patient remains

in the specific inpatient facility, is transferred to another, or becomes an outpatient.

When a patient returns to his family, he will in all likelihood be visited by a psychiatrist in his home. In United States such visits by psychiatrists are still considered to be innovations, but the typical Russian psychiatrist working in a neuro-psychiatric dispensary is expected to make at least 20 home visits a month.

I guess, to us this is sort of a pipedream or a Utopia, because we do not have the psychiatrists. We cannot even get enough psychiatrists for our correctional service institutions; we cannot get enough psychiatrists for our mental institutions—we do not call them mental institutions any more—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben, I am sorry to interrupt you, but may we adjourn for five minutes? There has been a request we all return to the House. Can we take a five-minute adjournment?

Mr. Ben: Sure, I finished that sentence.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Are we all expected to return to the House?

Mr. Chairman: No, just the cabinet ministers have to be in the House. You do not have to go.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, you will be pleased to know that I think I have made the point I wanted to make on this particular matter, and I am quite prepared to let us proceed to some other matter.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, I have about three matters that I would like to bring up if I could. One grows out of an article in yesterday's Toronto Daily Star headlined, "Retarded Children Don't Get Proper Tooth Care: Dentist." Dr. Norman Levine, associate in dentistry at the University of Toronto and a dental consultant to the Metro Toronto Association for Retarded Children and Protestant Children's Homes, made a number of statements in this article. I quote: "Institutions for the handicapped and retarded are overcrowded and understaffed dentally."

He mentions two or three institutions where they have children in excess of 1,000—in London—and there is only one dentist to care for them. And some other institutions,

he states, have 2,000 and they only have one full-time dentist or part-time dentist to look after these children. And he goes on to say: "It takes longer to treat retarded children than children who are not." He said that as a result of staff shortages, "many retarded children in institutions are losing their teeth unnecessarily."

Now is there a shortage of dentists in the institutions for the retarded, and if so, why is there the shortage and can anything be done to rectify it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. The answer to your first question is no, there is not a shortage. There are adequate dental facilities, and in detail Dr. Levine's article is inaccurate and rather sloppy.

Mr. Ferrier: Thank you. The second area that I want to deal with is in the area of emotionally disturbed children. There was an editorial in the *Globe and Mail* of January 26, 1971. It begins in this fashion:

For more than three years the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry has failed to live up to a contract with the provincial government to supply adequate services to the psychiatric clinic for juveniles at Toronto's family court. The money has been available. Each year the Legislature approves sufficient funds for the clinic, but the institute has never been able to claim more than about half the funds because the clinic it has been operating has been so limited.

It goes on to say that in the contract that was signed, the Clarke Institute agreed to provide the professional personnel and the time and so on. The editorial was rather critical of The Department of Health for giving carte blanche overseeing of the contract to the Clarke Institute and then it did not live up to the contract itself because it said it could not recruit adequate qualified staff. And it states:

Nevertheless, it is distressing that for more than three years children have been denied proper assistance for whatever reason.

Then it concludes with a couple of paragraphs:

Yet the reason given for its failure was a scarcity of child psychiatrists. Yet just last week Health Minister Thomas Wells announced the new programme under which psychiatric care at government expense will be provided for all emotionally

disturbed children in Ontario whose parents up until now could not afford to pay for it.

Where has Mr. Wells found the extra child psychiatrists who will be needed? Has he come up with a pool of talent hidden to the Clarke Institute? Is there really a shortage of qualified psychiatrists? Who is kidding who?

Now has that contract with the Clarke Institute been re-examined, and is it going to be possible for them to live up to the terms of the contract and to provide the service that is needed, or is there such a shortage of child psychiatrists that the programme is going to remain sort of not fully utilized?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, there appear to have been a number of problems relating to the operation of that court clinic which have been reported in considerable detail in the press in recent months. A new director of the clinic has been appointed, the programme is currently under review, a new revision has been prepared, and they are in the process of recruiting additional staff and expanded service at the present time.

Mr. Ferrier: Do you think it is a good idea to enter into a contract like this and not have some way of, if the person that you enter into a contract with is not living up to its terms under the contract, there should be some way that you can renegotiate it?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the contract is really a three-way agreement in that the court comes under the jurisdiction of The Department of Justice. They do not wish to assume the responsibility for the provision of special services of this kind, and in collaboration with The Department of Health, made arrangements through the Clarke Institute, which has a large and well-established Forensic service, in order that they would be able to lend their expertise and also to provide additional assistance through the use of resident placements into this programme. And it appeared that this was by far the most practical and effective way of responding to these needs.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We must maintain our input, I would judge, as a department.

Dr. Henderson: Our input in the department is in respect to supporting the Clarke Institute in taking on this programme and the provision of funds for them to do it.

Mr. Ferrier: There is one further item that I want to deal with. My colleague, the hon. member for Beaches-Woodbine (Mr. Brown) in his Throne debate speech dealt with the whole role of emotionally disturbed children, and he was very complimentary about the programme. He says this on page 786 of Hansard:

I am very impressed with the children's division of The Department of Health that has been established and the manner in which they have gone about setting up the regulations and introducing the programme.

The programme comes under The Children's Mental Health Centres Act. He goes on to say that while these services are licensed and they are provided for by the province in terms of funding, yet really there are no new facilities or beds made available for emotionally disturbed children. It is just the same now as it was some number of years ago. He mentions that there are in the neighbourhood of 250,000 children who need to be served—and I believe there are 950 children who are going to be served under these regulations.

He goes on to say that he feels that a great deal more money should be allotted for the whole children's programme. Now I believe Dr. Rae Grant is here, and she made some statements to a group of psychiatrists—the Ontario Psychiatrists Association—at the Park Plaza Hotel earlier this year in which she said that Ontario has mentally ill children whom nobody seems to want. "Provincial government doctor said yesterday: 'There seem to be some kids nobody wants; they are too disturbed for any centre';" and she goes on to corroborate what John Brown said in that speech, that there will be no more beds available come April 1.

A couple of questions I suppose arise here. Is there going to be, or have you plans afoot to find more beds available for mentally disturbed children who need care? What does Dr. Rae Grant mean when she says they are too disturbed for any centre? What happens to these children now? These are basically the questions that arise out of this.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Generally, in answer to your first question the answer is yes, there are plans afoot that are quite substantial in relation to the provision of greater facilities for emotionally disturbed children, but in detail, perhaps, Dr. Rae Grant could be asked to deal with the question, or questions.

Dr. N. I. Rae Grant (Children's Services Branch): Yes, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister,

we have now in the province a total of 1,009 beds for emotionally disturbed children and adolescents. This is really in three different service systems.

In the children's mental health centres, which come under the designation of The Children's Mental Health Centres Act, in force since April 1, there are 661 at the moment. That is in the residential centres.

In the eight regional centres, there is a total of 219 and in the special units in the provincial psychiatric hospitals there is a total of 103.

There are plans for increasing the number of beds in both the special units for emotionally disturbed children and adolescents in the psychiatric hospitals, and in the developing regional centres, some of which are now developing, for the first time, an inpatient component. I think, however, we should be careful about this question of beds because they are not certainly the total answer.

Many children need service long before they should be placed in a residential treatment centre. This is something that we are concerned about. The general hospitals that have psychiatric divisions and outpatient services are developing and are now providing much more service to children than they did, so that we see a good deal of movement in this field. We would like eventually to get to the time when there is service in every community, a range of service, so that children do not have to go many miles into residential treatment centres.

Mr. Ferrier: I understand from the CELDIC report that it is very desirable, if possible, to keep the children in their own community and find the kind of treatment approach there?

Dr. Rae Grant: Yes, certainly.

Mr. Ferrier: Under the regional centres that you have for children, is this the goal that you are working toward—trying to locate throughout the province qualified professional workers who can deal with these children in the early stages and, hopefully, keep them from coming to the stage where they need to be institutionalized?

Dr. Rae Grant: Yes, this is the aim. Mr. Chairman, the regional centres cannot, of course, provide for all the children from such a large area that they have to serve. They provide a kind of first service for children in an immediate area and a backup or specialist resource for children from a wider

area who would be seen in other facilities in their own area first; for example, in a psychiatric outpatient department of a general hospital.

Mr. Ferrier: Is there any movement afoot in the department to have residential treatment centres such as Browndale, or this kind of approach, where they are treated in their own community in a residence? Has the department any plans afoot for this kind of treatment centre?

Dr. Rae Grant: Mr. Chairman, there are several areas that are in the beginning stages of developing this kind of plan. There are several agencies in the community getting together to begin to develop plans for this kind of thing and we are very glad to see this.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think my own area is probably one.

Dr. Rae Grant: Yes.

Mr. Ferrier: Could I ask you to comment finally on the statement about the children whom nobody seems to want. Are these very badly disturbed children and what do you mean that there are no centres for them? Is there no way that they can be treated or cared for?

Dr. Rae Grant: Mr. Chairman, there are certain groups of children who seem to be not so well served at the moment. There are proportionately more beds for the under-12s than for the adolescent range. It stands to reason that most of the adolescents tend to be more disturbed so that there is a problem of providing adequate service for them and in particular for children who have had very traumatic life experiences with, for example, many foster home placements.

The children who are disturbed who are in training schools—this is one group that I was talking about. There is another group of children, Mr. Chairman, the multiproblem child, the child who is both retarded and disturbed; that poses a problem in finding an adequate kind of treatment resource for them. Naturally, with so many children wanting placement the residential treatment centres have tended in the past to take those children to whom they feel they can give the best service.

Mr. Ferrier: Do you not think that—this is probably a question more appropriately directed to the minister. If there are not places for these, for children who so badly

need them, this should be a top priority with you to try to make enough facilities for these children even if it is only on a small basis. I agree with my colleague from Beaches-Woodbine in that I really wonder if some of these children who are in correctional institutions might not better be treated or dealt with in some kind of institution under The Department of Health.

He had some critical remarks to make about operant conditioning that works in the correctional institutions. I am not in any position to discuss that, probably any more than you are, but I just wonder if this whole area has got to be re-examined in terms of the CELDIC report. I think we all realize that Dr. Rae Grant is one of the top people in this field and she has made some good suggestions. Maybe we can get some further action in regard to this treatment programme.

Mr. F. A. Burr (Sandwich-Riverside): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question about the psychiatric wing of the IODE hospital. I understand that there are about 80 beds for adults and 40 for children there now. When it was first being planned about 10 years ago, the plans called for about 400 beds or places, and this was gradually whittled down. Could you give me some reason for the big reduction?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Henderson?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, there was never any planning for a facility of that size in the Windsor area. The beds that have been provided were based on the active treatment bed requirements for that population and the IODE, having checked this out, were quite satisfied that the beds that were available were not only adequate for their population requirements, but a little in excess at the time the unit was established.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, a large number of people from Windsor are looked after in the St. Thomas hospital. In fact, I was involved some time ago, a year or two ago, in trying to get a subsidy from your department to enable relatives and friends to visit people once a month at St. Thomas.

From Windsor to St. Thomas by road is a fairly simple matter—a two-hour drive at the most—but many of the people who have friends and relatives there are either too old or too poor to have a car. The journey without a car takes you by train to London and bus to St. Thomas and taxi to the hospital. It is quite a problem for these people to get to St. Thomas once a month.

I am wondering whether you have any knowledge of this monthly trip; whether it is being held; and whether, if it has fallen through, you might feel that the good that is done to the patients by these visits would be worth your while to consider a monthly bus that people in these circumstances could make use of?

I do not know how much this has been explored—

Dr. Henderson: I am not aware of any details of such a programme. This was a type of activity that was carried on by a number of volunteer groups, and particularly the Canadian Mental Health Association; they arranged for transportation of relatives who were in difficulties; in situations where people required a longer period of care in an institution at some distance.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: At this stage it is being handled by voluntary organizations.

Mr. Burr: It may have been solved in that way, but it points up the fact that there are many people in St. Thomas who could have been accommodated. There was a need in Windsor for such accommodation. That is—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We cannot assume that it is the same care.

Dr. Henderson: Well, Mr. Chairman, we are really dealing with two situations over a long period of time. There is a decreasing need for longer-term care of the type that created the situation a number of years ago of people going into St. Thomas. What we have been attempting to do is to concentrate on better programmes at the local level that would help people to obtain the assistance they require without having to leave their community, and to concentrate on the active treatment portions of this.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In other words, we are leaning on St. Thomas less.

Dr. Henderson: It is quite true that there are a number of people who are still in St. Thomas and going to St. Thomas for a longer period of care and treatment than is practical to provide at the facilities in Windsor, but this number is decreasing and we would like to avoid building larger institutions because you would surely see in the future that this would not be the direction of the developing services.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Jessiman.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Mr. Chairman, my remarks will be brief and rather parochial. I just want to deal with the Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital. It is a rather large and very beautiful building; it is well located, well groomed on the outside and certainly well maintained on the inside. I think it is possibly one of the cleanest buildings in the Province of Ontario and one of the best run.

But one of my areas of concern is that it is a 1,000-bed hospital, and the administrator, a very capable person, is Mr. Fisher, I believe. His attitude is to treat and then release his patients as quickly as possible. He does an excellent job, so excellent that at the hospital, I believe, there are fewer than 600 patients.

My concern in this particular instance is not for the patients—they are well looked after—it is for the vacant space that we cannot really afford, the waste of active treatment bed space in the hospital. If you are not aware of it, sir, I think you should investigate it immediately, because I am sure it could be used for other purposes if not for psychiatric care.

My second area of concern is that for the approximately 550 patients in the 1,000-bed hospital, I think we have one psychiatrist. I realize that there is a great scarcity of psychiatrists in the Province of Ontario, or the Dominion of Canada, but one per 550 seems to me a kind of a ridiculous amount. I realize also that they have what I would call short-term doctors being sent from the great city of Toronto by the week, I believe—or maybe they come and serve two weeks.

The cost of administering psychiatric care to these patients is just a little too damn high if you have to put them up in hotels and fly them back and forth. I think we should have a little better treatment of that as far as I see it. I would like you to look into it and report back, sir.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly, Mr. Jessiman. Do you have any comments at this time, Dr. Henderson, with regard to utilization of that facility? Are we capable of removing some of its functions specially, insofar as your programme is concerned, and transferring them for other uses?

Dr. Henderson: At the present time, Mr. Minister, the hospital has a population of about 750, as compared with a rated bed capacity of 900, so that there has been a reduction in the patient population and some space could be freed for other purposes. It has been difficult to obtain professional staff,

particularly senior professional staff, to go to this area of the province.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron, have we done anything about transferring any of this space to other programmes or functions?

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister): No, I do not think we have. What we were doing was waiting until the situation at the Lakehead settled down so that we could determine the amount of space that might be released for other purposes. Now that it has reached a fairly stable level, we would be in a position to assess this as the hon. member suggests.

Mr. Jessiman: It could be released for uses other than its present use—convalescent use, for instance?

Dr. Charron: It would depend, Mr. Chairman, on the needs of that particular community and how the space might be used.

Mr. Jessiman: And where would the recommendation come from for the use of the space? From the local board?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you have a planning council there?

Mr. Jessiman: They have one now, yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It could originate there. As a matter of fact, it should originate here.

Mr. Jessiman: It would be nice if we offered, I think, Mr. Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Pardon?

Mr. Jessiman: It would be most acceptable, I am sure, in Thunder Bay or in north-western Ontario, if this space were made available for other uses.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, you can speak to your council at home, as it were, and I will undertake to ensure that we move from this direction through the Ontario Hospital Services Commission—in liaison, of course, with the mental health branch.

Mr. Jessiman: That is very good. And on psychiatric care, is there going to be some action along these lines?

Dr. Henderson: I am not sure that I understand the question, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There was a suggestion that there is inadequate staff at the psychiatric level.

Dr. Henderson: We are aware of that, sir. We have been advertising extensively and doing everything we can to improve this just as quickly as we can.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you have any nibbles?

Dr. Henderson: Well, we have recently put a full-time qualified medical director there as a result of these efforts. I am not sure of any immediate conditions that are that close that it would be appropriate to comment on.

Mr. Jessiman: Is it the opinion of the doctor that one psychiatrist per 750, using his figures, is suitable or adequate?

Dr. Henderson: Well, Mr. Chairman, it is not quite correct. We have one psychiatrist who is the senior person and has completed his specialist certification. There is also another there who has recently come to this country who has his qualifications but has not passed the Canadian examination, and is contemplating doing this this fall. We also have a number of psychiatrists in the community who add some assistance on a part-time basis.

Mr. Jessiman: Well, if I might contradict the doctor, I am there quite often and I do go over to the hospital many times, and you are not having any assistance really from the local psychiatrists. I believe there are only two qualified and their time is filled to capacity. So you are not really getting any help locally, are you?

Dr. Henderson: That is not my information, sir. I understand we are having assistance in the outpatient area particularly, and where there is a requirement we bring in people from the community to carry out examination in the courts and things of this sort, using local psychiatrists to do this.

Mr. Jessiman: I will look into it myself, sir, and report back to them.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, every time somebody gets parochial in this committee it is to point out that there is a shortage of psychiatrists. I am not intimating that the members are parochial in their outlook, but any time they say they are getting parochial and want to talk about the problems in their area with reference to the mental health

centres, they say there is a shortage of psychiatrists.

The member for Cochrane South was talking about the Clarke Institute. One cannot sit in the magistrates' courts of the city of Toronto without hearing people being referred to the Clarke Institute or the Clarke Institute being asked for a report or something of that nature. The Clarke Institute has become almost a byword down in the magistrates' court. I think that the system is being overutilized and not being utilized actually the way it should be.

In most instances it does not take anybody from the Clarke Institute to tell the magistrate or the lawyer or the people sitting in the court that the person before the bar of justice needs some treatment. Yet lawyers insist on getting letters from the Clarke Institute because it sounds better if the defence counsel gets up before the bar and he says, "I have a letter here from the Clarke Institute that this person is so and so."

I do not think it does that much good, because the provincial judges are not as stupid as sometimes we try to paint them. It is obvious that most of the persons do need some kind of help and they cannot get it anyway. What happens? All the letter does is to sort of fill out the docket a little bit and help take some of the burden off the magistrate. After it is all over, very few of them can get any treatment at the Clarke. They are either put on probation and become outpatients, or else they are referred to one of the—they are incarcerated and Correctional Services determines where they are going to be sent.

While this is going on, while they are making a lot of these reports that actually are meaningless insofar as the outcome of the trial is concerned, many of the youngsters who are brought before the juvenile courts, cannot get assistance and be kept out of the magistrates' courts, because the people at the Clarke are tied up with the magistrates' courts.

I think that the profession owes it to society to be a little more selective in asking for reports from the Clarke Institute. I would not for one minute suggest that you issue any kind of an ukase or edict, but surely we in the profession must try to make better utilization of the services and restrict abusing our rights to use those services, so that they can devote more of their time where they are more apt to do the most good. That is the first point I wish to make.

Secondly, there is again the shortage of psychiatric help. Why? Because the medical profession has control and a person cannot be a psychiatrist until he has first graduated from a medical school. But why? I recall when the Northeastern Psychiatric Hospital opened, there was a very good article in one of the local papers. It pointed out that no one was admitted until he was first given a very thorough medical by his own doctor—not by the psychiatrist but by his own doctor. I have not heard of the psychiatrist examining the patient himself.

To begin with, a psychiatrist does not come into contact with a patient until that patient has first been examined by his own physician or some other physician and that physician has determined there is nothing organically wrong or physically wrong with the patient, and it must be something that requires the services of a psychiatrist. Or the patient has gone to see the psychiatrist himself after he has come to the conclusion that the doctor, the regular physician, has not been able to do anything for him.

Under the circumstances, since we have such a shortage of psychiatrists, why in heaven's name do we take up our precious medical school facilities to train people at great expense to the public to be physicians and then have them become psychiatrists and not, from that day forward, practise medicine? Surely we can train them to specialize in psychiatry, to be psychiatrists without the necessity of making them graduate as medical doctors, and ascertain that each person who goes to see a psychiatrist has first been given a thorough medical examination. I have been harping at this, but as long as the medical profession controls the output of psychiatrists it is not going to permit this to happen, unless we ourselves change the Act, as we have the Barristers Act, The Solicitors Act and these other professional Acts. To me, that has to come or else we are never going to have enough, no way near enough of these highly trained people.

So it is not going to do us any good to get up here and cry that the local services are inadequate. I have the Ontario Hospital down the street from my office. I have been in there a number of times and that place has always had a shortage of psychiatrists. When I was critical of The Department of Reform Institutions, as it was then—now Correctional Services—I recall, and so will the hon. members who were here in the previous Parliament, that I was always crying the fact that none of these institutions had

any psychiatrists or had an inadequate number of psychiatrists. Always we find a shortage of that particular group. Something must be done, unless you are going to use the Russian system of asking for volunteers to train as psychiatrists and say, "You, you, you are the volunteers." We will have to do something else. I suggest the other way to do it is to set up a system of producing psychiatrists without the necessity of having to spend six or seven years first becoming a doctor and then not practising that vocation. It is, how shall I put it, a rape of our resources, to do that and not use them adequately.

The third point I want to raise is this problem again, raised by Mr. Ferrier, about emotionally disturbed children who are kinetically active, but nobody wants them. That is the phrase I think, the children "nobody wants." What are you going to do with such kinetically active children, especially if they are emotionally disturbed?

In the United States in many of the schools they are giving the children tranquilizers. But that to me is not a solution and I decry that. If you put them in institutions you are going to have bedlam, especially if all the children in that institution are these emotionally disturbed and kinetically overactive children. I am anxious to know what you suggest doing with those children, Dr. Rae Grant—or Dr. Henderson, I do not care.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, this is Dr. Rae Grant's specialty. I am sure she would be able to comment on it. But the general trend and direction in the whole field is to try to provide assistance at a much earlier stage of intervention for the children and draw on all of the resources that you have in the community—the doctor, the school teacher, the public health nurse, and have a greater concentration of effort here rather than to rely on one particular group or to wait until the condition and the age of the child is such that a serious condition has occurred and a more highly specialized and difficult treatment problem is presented.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As I understand it, the trend is to move diagnostic and medical services down the age scale to such ages as 2 and 3 so that you do not get fixed characteristics.

Mr. Ben: A fourth point that I wish to raise is this: You must have some figures on emotionally disturbed children. Do you have

any figures to show what proportion of them come from say high-rise apartment areas? How many come from the dense inner core? How many come from the low-income families, middle-income families, high-income families, so that we know where to go to provide early diagnostic services and preventive treatments? Do you have those figures? If you do, do you have a programme geared to benefit from those types of figures?

We hear a lot about high-rise living causing emotional disturbance, not only in children but in adults also. We hear that children who come from deprived areas have a handicap insofar as their IQ is concerned, that a child who comes from an emotionally deprived home is less apt to reach his full potential than a child with the same IQ to begin with, but who comes from a home better provided for economically. Do you have these types of figures?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, there has been a great deal of study in this general area and some of the factors that contribute to emotional disturbance in children. I think to try and summarize, it is a very complex issue. A number of the children who display evidences in their behaviour of what you might call emotional disturbance, or more properly, problems of adjustment at that particular age, relate to a whole host of factors. You can identify high-risk groups, which tend to be concentrated in considerable extent in lower socio-economic groups, but this does not mean that higher socio-economic levels are immune to this type of disorder, because there is a fairly high incidence there as well. In this other category you run into a whole gamut of things from physical health and home situations and the kind of conditions and climate in which they are growing up that are not specific for any given child, and it is very difficult to make the kind of correlation that is suggested.

Certainly these are the areas where one looks in terms of rendering assistance, not so much in the matter of prevention as any guarantee or insurance that this child is not going to suffer a disability later in life, but to try and meet the needs of the children whenever there is an apparent requirement for some special attention.

Mr. Ben: What bothers me during our discussions on these estimates is that we have been placing a greater emphasis, or over-emphasis perhaps, on the end of the problem, that is beds—centre beds, hospital beds—and

not enough emphasis on trying to eliminate having the children there.

What I mean is, we, the members of the committee, have been asking more questions about the supplying of beds and the supplying of facilities than we have been asking about possible prevention of the need for these beds. This is what bothers me.

Dr. Henderson mentioned it is a complex problem. Of course it is a complex problem, but I was seeking to determine whether, in fact, there are any statistics that show that you have a very high incidence of emotional disturbance among children in area A. We look at that area and we might find that it is an economically deprived area. We can then go into that area and determine what factors led to the high incidence in that area. It could be family background, it could be economic want, it could be crowded facilities—these factors which the doctor mentioned would be the causes of the emotional disturbance, but until we find the areas where we have that highest density of emotionally disturbed children, we cannot start pinpointing the causes, be they few or many.

As Dr. Charron said, almost every ailment is caused by a multiplicity of factors. I am quite prepared to accept that, but we still have to try to determine which ones are the key factors. Do you have figures, for example, for Metropolitan Toronto to show where most of the emotionally disturbed children come from—or any of them come from?

Some come from every segment of society, I am prepared to admit that. But surely there is some kind of a graph you could plot or you can take a map and start putting red pins into it and blue pins and green pins, each one signifying so many emotionally disturbed children? Statisticians love to stick pins in walls just as politicians like to stick pins in people verbally.

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, we do not have an overall register for a community like Metropolitan Toronto and yet most of the facilities that are operating do have a record of the residence area from which they receive referrals, they have some concern with the high incidence of referrals, and in a number of instances concentrate directly on those kinds of areas. In some facilities they set up part-time field units or outposts to try and be more readily available to respond to needs in such areas.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Has there been any research done along the environmental lines that Mr. Ben is discussing?

Dr. Henderson: A great deal, sir.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do they show the impact of environment in any consistent—

Dr. Henderson: There is no question of the impact, but what you have is a potential, if you like, in the individual and an unfavourable condition, but when you try to be more specific in marrying those things up—or any particular condition or reaction—then it is very difficult to get the equation.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Chairman, with the cutting back of the home care programmes, obviously there are going to be fewer beds available in the institutions. I was wondering—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Cutting back?

Mrs. M. Renwick: —if you will be cutting back homes for special care, which will eliminate the exodus from the Ontario Hospitals.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There will be no cutting back.

Mrs. M. Renwick: The fact that it is a static—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are failing to increase.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Failing to increase, right. What I am concerned with is how many hospitals in the Metro area have psychiatric wings, and how many of those have how many adult beds and how many beds for children?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, in Metropolitan Toronto there are 10 general hospitals—that includes the Clarke unit, which also functions under The Public Hospitals Act—that have psychiatric departments. In terms of beds, if I may do this on a rough figure, there are, approximately, between 575 and 600 beds.

Mrs. M. Renwick: So a hospital has about 50 beds?

Dr. Henderson: A hospital has about 50 beds? They vary in size, Mr. Chairman. I think the largest—I am low on that estimate because there are some in the suburban areas which have not been included. I would bring that up by another, say, 200. I think the largest one would be in the North York area, with an 83-bed psychiatric service.

Mrs. M. Renwick: I am concerned, Mr. Minister, because I have talked to psychiatrists who, when they get some emergency cases, have to shop around for beds. In other words, they have to find one here, and one there, and one at 999, as an example. Can you give any indication as to how soon the facilities at 999 might be completed, the new facilities?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, the first phase of this, which will provide 300 beds, is expected to be completed this fall.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And the balance?

Dr. Henderson: The balance, I think, is another 18 months for the remainder of it, sir.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: For a total number of?

Dr. Henderson: Six hundred, plus the 150 in the infirmary unit; 750, sir.

Mrs. M. Renwick: My other question, Mr. Minister, was how many of these beds in the general hospitals are for children?

Dr. Henderson: None of these beds in the general hospitals that I speak of are specifically for children, Mr. Chairman. There is a children's unit at the Clarke Institute which, I believe, has 20. There are a number of younger age groups, primarily adolescents, who are admitted to this type of facility but they are not set aside especially for children. They are for a small number of adolescents.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Minister, obviously if the Clarke Institute has just 20 beds, this is an unbelievably small number of units for care for children when they need psychiatric help.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What is the balance as units, you mean?

Mrs. M. Renwick: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As the doctor said, they are not based on a unit organization in the ordinary hospital, are they?

Dr. Henderson: Mr. Minister, the general hospitals, as far as younger children are concerned, are not a particularly suitable environment for any kind of longer term when you are dealing with children, you are talking about longer than the usual stay of an adult in an acute treatment general hospital. There is a requirement for social and recreational activities and educational facilities that

are difficult to provide there. We look to the general hospitals more for concentration and outpatient assessments and daycare programmes than we would for beds as far as the children's services are concerned.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Where might children be taken, Mr. Minister, then, on an emergency basis for care?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I presume on an emergency basis the hospital. But they are not a suitable facility for anything other than emergency.

Dr. Henderson: I think that would be appropriate, sir. There are a number of beds throughout the province for the children, and the children's services branch has been responding to a number of requests where there were some difficulties in finding suitable placements for the children and it is always very glad to help out in this way.

Mrs. M. Renwick: But in the Metro area there must be long waiting lists, Mr. Minister?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Rae Grant.

Dr. Rae Grant: Mr. Chairman, this has been quite a problem, particularly for the adolescent, where of course there is usually much more of an emergency situation than with a younger child. There is a problem too of matching children and matching treatment resources. We have just very recently begun a special committee of people who have children that they are referring to residential treatment, such as school boards, Children's Aid Societies, mental health clinics and so on, with the directors of the treatment centres in the Metro area.

There is a total of 10 treatment centres, resources around the Metro area, and, putting these people together, we are working together to attempt to work out a way of streamlining admissions and matching up children and resources much better than it has been happening.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Downer.

Mr. A. W. Downer (Dufferin-Simcoe): Mr. chairman, I am sorry Mr. Ben is not in committee at the moment, because I was concerned about what he had to say about Mr. Dymond's statements. In today's Telegram, Peter Worthington corroborates practically in its entirety Dr. Dymond's statements about psychiatry in the USSR. I would just like to read one or two things from this article. It

says: "In the USSR they use psychiatry to quell dissent." No wonder they need a lot of psychiatrists over there.

It goes on to prove this. They have a chap writing in and he tells about people who have been arrested. One man caught distributing leaflets was found by the psychiatrist to be suffering from creeping schizophrenia and he was sent to the notorious special asylum for treatment by a psychiatrist. Another man made a speech on the problem of freedom and was picked up by the police for psychiatric diagnosis. He was ordered to undergo compulsory treatment.

This is the article in today's paper by Peter Worthington and it is entitled "Growing uneasiness about Soviet hospital prisons." I think the government has to decide to go along with the member for Ontario, because I think his statement is absolutely corroborated by Peter Worthington.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: These are beautiful situations. I am sorry the member for Humber is not here, but I remember seeing the statistics as a lawyer—and he is a lawyer—how marvellously the court dockets flow in Moscow and Leningrad with 99.2 per cent pleading guilty.

Mr. Downer: Just one other little article here. I quote:

There are documented forms of drug torture to asylum inmates if they will not renounce their convictions as far as politics are concerned. Although of sound mind they are subjected to physical torture on the pretext that it is treatment.

Now this is going on in Russia, and I hope that Mr. Ben is getting the right idea about conditions there, and that he will not continue to dispute the statements of Mr. Dymond.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us hope he does not become Minister of Health in Ontario.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Would it be in order to have this committee send Mr. Ben over to investigate?

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): It is because of the pre-court procedures in Russia that they have the 99.2 per cent pleading guilty.

Mr. Chairman: Legal aid?

Mr. Braithwaite: Their kind of legal aid!

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Burr.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Humber did try to bring us back to the prevention aspect rather than the treatment. I was disturbed, and I have been in communication with people in Windsor who were disturbed about the reports in the United States about the large-scale use of drugs in schools to calm hyperactive children and those with learning disabilities. The minister may recall that I wrote a letter to him on this subject and he replied that there was no intention of doing this in Ontario.

However, in the same letter I referred to the treatment by Dr. Cott, of the New York Institute for Child Development, concerning the treatments that he has been finding very successful for children with learning difficulties and hyperactivity. It consisted of massive doses, or at least large therapeutic doses, of certain vitamins—B2, B3, B6, vitamin C and vitamin E; these five vitamins used in place of drugs. Apparently the results were very good. Of course, in the treatment of mental illness we have the use of psychology—what one of the hon. members referred to as TLC—we have drugs and we have other methods. In Ontario, have we investigated the role of vitamins as a substitute, a therapeutic substitute, for drugs? If these have been successful, as apparently they have in New York, would that not indicate that part of the cause, or the cause, of some forms of mental disturbance is a dietary one? Could we not use or pursue this avenue in an effort to prevent people from becoming mentally ill and mentally disturbed? What is being done in Ontario along this line?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Have we any research in this field at the moment?

Dr. Rae Grant: Mr. Chairman, if I could respond to the first part of the question about the use of amphetamines and the newspaper article. It is true that amphetamines have been used a good deal, particularly in parts of the States, with hyperactive children. Probably overused, I would be inclined to agree. Nevertheless, amphetamines and Ritalin have proved most successful when used on these very hyperactive children. They appear to improve their concentration, reduce their distractibility and make them amenable so that they can learn; they can sit still, in other words, for the first time.

Ritalin or amphetamines appear to work on about 50 per cent of these children. No one is yet able to predict without a trial of

treatment whether or not it is going to work. But these particular children, of course, do cause such tremendous concern to their teachers and to their homes, to their families, that anything which helps enable them to be managed and maintained and learn is obviously very worthwhile.

Follow-up studies have been that this continues to be effective but it cannot be used beyond puberty. As far as I know, there have not been any reports of addiction following long-term use of these drugs in these younger children. It is in the young age groups that hyperactivity is a real problem.

Mr. Burr: Mr. Chairman, I am quite aware of the value of these—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Burr was talking about vitamins.

Dr. Rae Grant: Mr. Chairman, we reviewed recently some of the literature on the use of vitamins. They have been particularly used in childhood schizophrenia and the results seem to be very controversial. There are many authors who state they have not been able to replicate Dr. Cott's results. It is an area that some people are looking at. I am not aware of its being used in Ontario.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Cott has some ideas on vitamin use, too.

Mr. Burr: That is on one vitamin.

Mr. Chairman, I am aware of the value of the amphetamines—at least, the apparent value of them—in calming children, because my wife is engaged with special education. As long as these drugs are being medically administered, we cannot quarrel with that. But in the United States apparently these are being administered by teachers. They certainly are not qualified to administer these drugs and that is the fear that some people have, that this will enter the Ontario school system. You have assured me that there is no prospect of that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I can see none.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, we have discussed through these estimates the whole approach of preventive mental health care and the use of resources within the communities to deal with people before they get to the very disturbed state, in order to try to head off a kind of breakdown. I understand from reading parts of the CELDIC report and from the debates here last year that

programmes to this effect are taking place in Scarborough now. It is very well organized there. There is a programme in northeastern Ontario under the auspices of the northeastern regional mental health centre. I also understand in Saskatchewan that there are psychiatric nurses and a good deal of emphasis has been placed on the treatment of people in their own communities rather than bringing them into the large institutions. Some concern has been expressed by people who live in the communities where the large institutions are that there are no longer patients in them.

I wonder what plans are afoot to expand the kind of community mental health programmes that we have in Scarborough and northeastern Ontario throughout the rest of the province. Is there a special plan by the department or is it left to the particular personnel in the various regions to take hold of this themselves and give the leadership?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We receive proposals from the people themselves and they are assessed. We do not have a programme, if you want to put it that way, do we?

Dr. Henderson: There are a number of things being done in this, Mr. Chairman. The programme is all oriented to a total system of involvement. We have programme co-ordinators in the psychiatric services branch who are going throughout the province and visiting these various communities to provide assistance to the staff in the general hospitals and the other psychiatric facilities in developing broader-based services directed to total community needs.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I thought that Mr. Ferrier was pointing toward the voluntary groups.

Mr. Ferrier: Voluntary groups, yes, but also the professional people who are already there.

Dr. Henderson: In addition to that, we have the programme that is now being developed specifically to identify and relate the psychiatric services in a given area that are provided by general hospitals and other facilities to provincial institutions to begin an overall concentration and co-ordination of effort in relation to that population. This has been moving forward for the last two or three years.

Mr. Ferrier: I am glad to hear that.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick: We have talked around and about the shortage of doctors and the shortage of staff. I am wondering if I might ask in the Ontario Hospitals exactly which hospitals are fully staffed and which are short of doctors? How many doctors are they short in each case?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have the figures, I guess. I do not have them by individual hospitals but I can give you the shortages in our system. I suppose in time we could get it on an individual hospital basis.

Dr. Henderson: I do not have it by hospital at the moment either, but that information can be obtained.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Would the member be satisfied with the overall figures?

Mrs. M. Renwick: Let us see what the overall figures are.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Psychiatrists—in our psychiatric hospitals, 20; in our retarded hospitals, 6; for a total of 26. Psychologists—

Mrs. M. Renwick: These are the ones you are short of?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, this is our shortage against a mean which is established on the basis of standards set up by the American Association for the—

Dr. Henderson: No, sir. These are the psychiatric standards that we have worked out in relation to minimum requirements for services and a realistic caseload.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but your minimum requirements themselves, as I understand it, relate to—

Dr. Henderson: The American Psychiatric Association is the only body that has any specific statistics. As for the general practitioners that we have provided in our facilities, there is no shortage of this type of medical service in the provincial hospitals.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Psychologists, 51; social workers, 33; occupational therapists, 41. These are in the system.

Mrs. M. Renwick: They seem like very large numbers to be short of in such categories.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the total system encompasses how many institutions?

Dr. Henderson: Twenty-six institutions—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a very big system.

Dr. Henderson: —with a total population of about—

Mrs. M. Renwick: May I ask if the Brockville Hospital is fully staffed at this point?

Dr. Henderson: I do not think any of the hospitals are fully staffed, sir.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There are shortages in all of them?

Dr. Henderson: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: These shortages, as you know, are compounded by the fact that, as I understand it, there is a world-wide shortage—certainly in the western world—of psychiatrists. Would that be true?

Dr. Henderson: Not in Russia.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Leaving Russia aside then.

Dr. Henderson: These standards are very difficult to arrive at, Mr. Chairman. At the present time in Ontario we are running a little under one psychiatrist to 15,000 population, which is relatively high on the overall spectrum of psychiatrist to population.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but that includes private practice.

Dr. Henderson: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: So we are over-weighted—I mean, the weight of psychiatric delivery is tilted toward private practice.

Dr. Henderson: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And that compounds our problem.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 1 carry?

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, Dr. Rae Grant made mention of the use of amphetamines. I happen to have a press clipping from my own paper, in which the medical officer of health seeks an amphetamine ban. Dr. Jones, the local MOH, termed amphetamines more addictive than heroin and said that speed was the real killer among drugs in a very real sense. Now how can you justify the use of amphetamines with a statement like that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: He is dealing with drug abuse. Dr. Rae Grant is dealing with experimental and therapeutic use of drugs for a particular patient and for a particular purpose.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, but he recommends the total ban of it because there is an alternative drug that is not addictive, so that even if someone does get hold of the alternative drug, it does not have that same deleterious health effect.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, Dr. Rae Grant just a moment ago—I do not know if you were here—

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I was here.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —pointed out that the experiments that had been made did not show problems of addiction. Is that correct?

Dr. Rae Grant: Mr. Chairman, there has been a recommendation of the American Medical Association that amphetamines should be banned, with the exception of therapeutic treatment in certain conditions, of which the treatment of hyperkinetic children was one such exception. I think that we are indeed dealing with two different circumstances. Certainly this should only be under very strict medical supervision, and certainly Ritalin should be used in preference. But there are some children who do not respond to Ritalin but do respond to amphetamines, and until we have a totally non-addictive drug, it is the treatment of choice just for this specific group of children.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, I will not prolong the discussion, Mr. Chairman. I will give the good doctor this article and then she can look it over and see whether the local MOH is right in his conclusion, because this is as a recommendation of a committee in the community to the study.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Relating to drug abuse. Well, if there is any contradicting—

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I know, but you see the fact that it is available means that the drug abuser is going to be able to get it. They want a total ban on the use of amphetamines in themselves, not necessarily their use

—that the medical profession not have them available, that they not be manufactured because there is an alternative.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is a British drug that has been developed as an alternative.

Mr. B. Newman: I will leave this with the doctor.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Braithwaite: Perhaps the minister could tell us about the children's camps in the summertime. Could the committee find out how much money is being spent this summer to assist these camps? Is there any figure available on the special camps for children with learning disabilities?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In view of the hour, could we put it together in a letter? I will send it to you.

Mr. Braithwaite: Very well, and I would like to know what camps are available.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The camps and how much they get?

Mr. Braithwaite: And what plans there are for similar assistance next year. I understand there is a shortage of this type of accommodation. I am wondering—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay?

Mr. Braithwaite: I see. There is no information available at the moment?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, at 1 o'clock—right at this moment it would only be general, I expect. But you want particular figures.

Dr. Henderson: There is one camp particularly, Camp Towhee, that is operated by the association for children with such handicaps; that is being assisted. I am not aware of others.

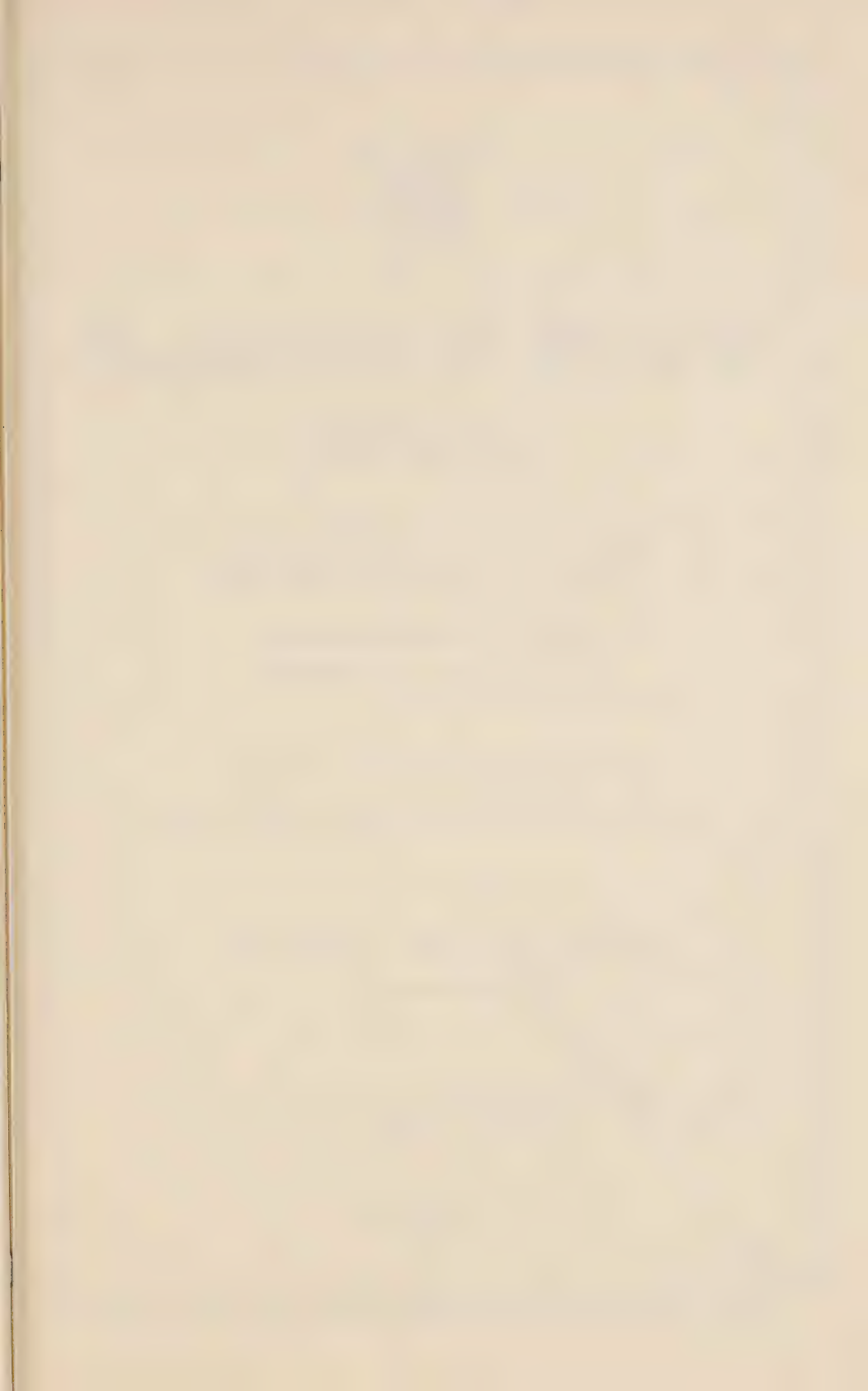
Mr. Chairman: Item 1 carried? Item 2. Shall vote 703 carry? Carried.

The committee adjourned at 1 o'clock p.m.

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, May 25, 1971

Afternoon Session ★

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1971

The committee met at 3:09 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. O. F. Villeneuve in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

Mr. Chairman: There are enough now for a quorum. So we are on vote 704, page 114. Mr. Minister, I think you wanted to make some report?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): Yes; I have cabinet tomorrow morning starting at 8:30 and running through the morning. If I may, Mr. Chairman, I will accept those responsibilities and ask that perhaps tomorrow morning's proposed meeting could be held over until early afternoon when I can get out of cabinet? I do not know when we will finish. It may be an all-day cabinet, but the issues that I want to be there to discuss will be dealt with in the early morning.

Mr. Chairman: We had sent out notices that we would meet at 10 o'clock, but if you are not able to be there, Mr. Minister, we have no choice. Would it be all right then to have our meeting scheduled for 2 o'clock?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will certainly be available then.

Mr. Chairman: Is that satisfactory with the members?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 704, item 1.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Mr. Chairman—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, may I speak to the question of how we are going to handle it first?

Mr. Chairman: All right!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, what I would like to do, if it meets with your committee's wishes or desires, would be to deal with these votes basically as two votes, one relating to OHSIP totally and the other

relating to OHSC. This will cover all the material, and from the point of view of our discussions I think it will not in any way limit this and will tend to organize the questioning perhaps a little better.

Mr. Chairman: What is the wish of the committee? Satisfactory? All right.

Mr. Ferrier:

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think this has already been alluded to in the committee and it has been very current in the last week or two since my colleague from High Park (Mr. Shulman) raised the whole question of the doctor's relationship to the OHSIP plan and overbilling that has been alleged. The minister is now moving to take steps to look into this whole matter, and in a speech of a week or two ago he raised a number of questions with the doctors themselves. They have been, or I hope that they will be, looking into the matter more fully.

Since I have been a member of the House and since this has been brought in, my colleague, the member for High Park, has asked for some kind of audit or check in the doctors' billing of OHSIP, and repeatedly he seemed to get the runaround. I can point out a number of press releases and questions that he raised in the House about this particular issue.

According to past reports that I have, it is not something that is limited to our own jurisdiction. I have an article from the Montreal Star of Saturday, August 15, 1970, dealing with Medicare in France, headed: France Alarmed by Spiralling Medicare Bill. And it says, "Doctors often overtreat patients so as not to lose them."

I had an article from another jurisdiction where this same kind of thing occurred. It was from The New York Times and it says, "One of three US doctors may be evading tax." To discourage this apparent tax evasion the Treasury asked Congress to pass legislation requiring insurance companies to report to the Internal Revenue Service all sizeable payments they make to doctors. There is such a reporting system in effect now, but it provides only partial coverage.

Dealing with certain audits that were taken, the article said about 3,000 of the 4,000,

according to what Mr. Whittaker told the Senate finance committee, about half of these showed substantial deficiencies in the amount of income the doctors reported.

I would suspect that most doctors are honest and do not milk the system. But it has gone on in other jurisdictions. I think that OHSIP was rather unsuspecting or winked its eye or something at the whole problem of this overtreating and possible overbilling by a number of doctors by not having built an audit into the plan in the first place. It has meant that the public has been overcharged. It has meant that the majority of doctors who are honest and hard working have somehow or other had their name besmirched. I think that something is needed along the line that London Life had in effect before, whereby for every service that was performed a duplicate bill was sent out or a notification of the payment was sent out to the particular person.

This itself may have been too costly, but when PSI was in operation, according to my colleague from High Park, I think about one in 10 bills was investigated. Surely some tighter form of audit and control should have been in this plan right from the beginning.

It is a little bit sad that we are now beginning to pick up the pieces and trying to do something about it. I do not know about some of these questions that the minister asked of the physicians of the province about certain kinds of processes, tonsillectomies and so on. One would hope that these kinds of decisions would be made on good medical practice and not solely on the basis of something else.

The whole number of questions that the minister asked is very searching. I would suspect that the minister went to his officials at OHSIP and asked to get clued in on some of these things. These things seem to me to be on the fingertips of the officials of OHSIP, and they had no difficulty in supplying these kinds of questions for the minister to investigate.

I think these matters were brought up before, either in the estimates last fall or before the health committee. The officials of OHSIP at that point told us they were checking into these kinds of things. I am not sure what has been done since this was raised before, whether there has been a more tightly knit system of investigating these types of things, or whether it has waited for this particular minister to move in and

make very clear that something is going to be done. I know things drifted quite a bit in the health department until this minister moved in. He has been much more decisive and quite ready to tackle problems and not let them drift.

But I think it is an unfortunate thing that there has not been a much tighter audit system in the whole setup of OHSIP in the past, and I hope that it will be in there in the future. I hope, if it is to be the college that does the investigation of these particular questions that have been raised and the kind of bills that are submitted and the procedures that doctors are carrying out, that it be tightened up and it carry out its investigation in such a way that this whole situation can be discouraged and that there be strong means to discourage the whole ambit of overtreating and possibly overbilling by the few unscrupulous people amongst the medical profession.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, I think the last words of the member are very significant—and, that is the recognition that we are dealing with a very small number of those involved. I think we should also recognize that it is not a case of the public through its representatives simply pointing the finger at the medical profession, because the public are a part of this question of use and overuse and misuse as much as the profession. And again with the public we will only be dealing with a minority, hopefully, as we learn the facts.

One of the problems in dealing with this has been, of course, that we were not in a position to make a sophisticated analysis of patterns of practice and the facts involved, until more and more of the figures came forward, and until our own spot checking which has been going on gave us the information we needed. It is now timely that we do move.

We will move, Mr. Chairman, in two fields legislatively. One is, so far as the government is concerned we will develop the power of financial and medical audit. In other words, we will develop a capacity to audit in relation to a doctor's practice; and to a degree we will relate that to a medical audit as to what he is actually doing insofar as his procedures and professional work are concerned.

We have legislation ready to move in relation to the government's function, and we will shortly have it in relation to that of the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

There also we expect—or I certainly hope—that we will be able to delegate to them a very substantial power in relation to both a medical and financial audit, because the more the medical profession, of course, can do itself, the less government has to do. In the long run that is not only a good idea, but it is a lot less expensive and more efficient.

The other side of it is, as I mentioned in the beginning, the question of the public. Here we are going to have to, as government and as citizens, develop the public's education contemporaneously with that of the profession itself. I am not sure how we are going to do this, but certainly we must have a public that is aware of how terribly wasteful its own attitudes toward its own system can be.

In the House the other day the leader of the official opposition (Mr. Nixon) asked me to expand on these questions. Perhaps I could take a few moments out of your committee's time to make this statement for the record, give the committee members a copy and discharge my undertaking, hopefully to supply further information. If I may do that.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): I do not think you can. I remember the Speaker one time taking to task the then Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship and Immigration for giving an answer to a question other than where it was asked. So if this question was asked of the minister in the House, the Speaker will rap you over the knuckles if you give an answer anywhere else in relation to discharging your obligation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps I can give it both places?

Mr. Ben: Fine. But I was just pointing out that was a ruling of the Chair. If you recall the minister was trying to be courteous and he had sent me the answer to a question that was in Hansard. If the question is in Hansard you will have to give an answer there too. If you want to read it here okay. I was just trying to keep the minister out of mischief.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): May I ask a question, Mr. Chairman? Is the minister prepared to make public the amounts of moneys that are paid to doctors by specialty?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I do not think so at this time. We could develop figures in this field, but I think that—

Mrs. M. Renwick: Would you not have those figures automatically under OHSIP?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but they are only half the figures, you see, because until July, 1972—I say half the figures, they are only a proportion of the figures. We have got both OHSIP and the designated agents paying doctors in proportions that we can only guess at and which vary from area to area in the province.

I know the member for High Park is very keen on getting the gross figures, involving both the designated agents and OHSIP. Perhaps a little later when he drops in my officials can explain what our capacity is in relation to delivering these figures. So, with only part of the figures—mainly those that we have ourselves in OHSIP—I am very reticent about going very far, because at the very best they will be incomplete.

I was going to expand on these, if I might Mr. Chairman. It is the practice of a number of individual physicians to substitute higher cost for lower cost items in their submissions by claiming

(a) general assessment or reassessment fees under circumstances when it is reasonable to assume that only the office visit fee should have been claimed;

(b) consultations which do not meet the requirements set out for such a fee. The patient has been seen and referred by another licensed physician and the report has been prepared and sent to the referring physician;

(c) hospital visits, when services should be more appropriately claimed as supportive or concurrent care;

(d) office visits where only injections have been given, or where subscribers have been seen only incidentally;

(e) diagnostic work as independent procedures, when they should have been part of and included in the fee paid for associated examinations or subjected to a deductible.

1. The cost implications of these substitutions are not accurately known, but are potentially large since the service items involved constitute a large proportion of OHSIP payments. OHSIP is now aware of any claims made for fictitious services.

2. General assessments and reassessments constitute an increasing proportion of office practice, replacing the lower fee item of office visits. It was the practice of a number of individual physicians to substitute higher cost visits for the lower cost office visit. In some practices, this is the rule rather than the

exception. The frequency of such substitutions is large enough to affect overall utilization rate, with general assessments and reassessments constituting an increasing proportion in relation to office visits.

3. Unconscionable claims are submitted for detention time. The billings for detention, defined as when the physician is required to spend considerable extra time on behalf of the patient and to the exclusion of all other work, have shown a considerable increase during the past year. Patterns of practice for a number of physicians whose claims for detention constitute more than half of their total claims and for others who routinely claim for detention with most office visits, both lead us to conclude that this service item is not being billed appropriately.

4. A surprising number of surgical procedures of questionable necessity are being performed in Ontario. Tonsillectomy is the most flagrant example. Only a small proportion of children require tonsillectomy. Some expert clinicians suggest no more than one to three per cent. Some academics say none. In Ontario, over half our children are subjected to the operation. Ontario has the highest rate in the country. The financial and medical implications of such a high volume of tonsillectomy are enormous.

5. When physicians have a financial interest in a laboratory, there is significantly greater use of laboratory services. In 1969, for OHSIP Central, the average cost per contract for all independent laboratories was \$12.29. For six known, self-referred laboratories the average cost per contract was \$24.53. For hospital out-patients laboratories it was \$8.92.

6. Some physicians are in a high income when providing service to a very minimal number of patients. Evidence is provided by studying the income for patient of all doctors from OHSIP Central and PSI from July 1 to September 30, 1970. The average for general practitioners is \$18.67; five general practitioners have an income for patient of over \$300. Six psychiatrists had incomes for patient of over \$200 while the average for psychiatrists is \$80. Five GPs have been interviewed by OHSIP because they earned very large incomes by seeing each patient several times more often than the average.

7. Services provided by interns and residents are billed in the name of a supervising physician who has not been involved in the care of the patient. That was the question or the inference. In 1969, the OMA Council

discussed at length the charges by staff doctors in teaching hospitals for services rendered by interns and residents. Some doctors defended this practice by saying that they were responsible legally for the case, even if they were not present at the operation or other service. The salaries of interns and residents, however, are paid by Ontario Hospital Services Commission and any additional claim for their services to OHSIP is in effect extra billing.

8. Services provided by supporting personnel are billed by physicians at the physician's fee level. OHSIP does not wish to imply that it is bad practice for a doctor to use trained technical staff to perform services for patients, but the doctor should not charge as if he had performed them himself. Evidence that this is done frequently reaches OHSIP.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished, Mr. Ferrier?

Mr. Ferrier: There is just one question I would like to ask about these tonsillectomies. Is there not a pathology committee in the hospital that has to examine all organs and so on that have been taken from a patient and decide whether they are in fact pathological and needed removal and so on?

Mr. Ben: A tissue audit committee, they are called.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes. To whom do they make a report? The particular hospital board, or—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes; and beyond that—

Mr. Ben: As a matter of fact, I was going to ask some questions on that particular point. I am just waiting for the hon. member to—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Is there other responsibility in reporting?

Dr. J. S. Aldis (Health Service Insurance): Through the medical staff advisory committee to the board of governors, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do we get a lead on it ourselves? Statistically?

Dr. Aldis: Oh yes. We would have statistics on this through OHSC. We do not have them ourselves, but they are certainly available through OHSC.

Mr. Ferrier: Would it not be a good idea in tightening up your whole procedures that if there were reports about specific operations the committee felt were not advisable that these also be reported to either the college or to your office here so that an even tighter control could be made on doctors?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, as a matter of fact, with the sophisticated degree of programming for our total computerized system, not only tonsillectomies but any number of procedures can be triggered by the profile as being aberrations or otherwise and subject to the legislation that I mentioned earlier we will in the department, or through the college, be able to do a complete audit.

Mr. Ferrier: What would happen to a doctor who, in the opinion of the tissue audit committee, was performing operations that were questionable, or they felt should not be performed? Would his particular kind of practice be referred to the college for review and discipline?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes; and from the college to another level; as I have mentioned a lay level of review.

Mr. Ferrier: Well that is all for the time being.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Well working backwards, since Mr. Ferrier raised this point about the tissue audit committee, after you had issued or nailed to the door of the Ontario Medical Association your eight point thesis, or whatever you want to call it—

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): Like Martin Luther, is he not?

Mr. Ben: Well that is what he was—or sounded like at that time.

Mr. Bullbrook: It was called a bull.

Mr. Ben: A bull. Yes, that is what it was—it was a lot of it.

An hon. member: Well have you read my speech?

Mr. Ben: Dr. J. T. Colquhoun of Thunder Bay, who is the newly-elected president of the Ontario Medical Association, is reported as having said in justification or in answer to this business of too many surgeries that hospitals have tissue audit committees which assess reports from a pathologist of specimens removed during surgery and then “if a

surgeon removes too many normal organs—and the emphasis on the word “normal” is mine—“we would lean on him.”

Now this gives rise to a number of questions, because obviously many normal organs are being removed by surgeons, and the questions this gives rise to are:

1. What constitutes too many normal organs?

2. How can they “lean on him”?

3. How have they leaned on him?

4. How often do they lean?

5. How many doctors have been suspended for such activities, i.e., removing too many normal organs?

Did you ask Dr. Colquhoun those questions?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. Why would I ask him those questions?

Mr. Ben: Well he made this comment about the tissue audit committees in reply, or rebuttal, or in clarification, whatever phrase he wishes to use or you wish to use, of your statement, for want of a stronger word that—I might as well quote it—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well it is a question.

Mr. Ben: Your statement that—why they are performing so many tonsillectomies—i.e., why are they doing what we suspect to be unnecessary surgical operations—removing what, in many jurisdictions, and even in this jurisdiction, is considered by people in the jurisdiction to be an unnecessary surgical operation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am a lawyer. I do not know. But I think it is a darn fair question to ask, do you not?

Mr. Ben: This is the point. I think you should ask them these questions.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is what I am doing.

Mr. Ben: Just what number constitutes too many?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is something that they will have to assess in co-operation with our people.

Mr. Ben: My dear Mr. Minister, insofar as this particular aspect of it is concerned, I do not give a fuddle-duddle about the cost of it. What interests me or what concerns me is, are our citizens losing healthy organs through careless or unscrupulous medical practitioners?

To me that is more important than the fact that they be charging us for them. That is secondary.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I never suggested that we were dealing with anything here but the triggering of a statistical question that requires an answer. And I think you agree with me 100 per cent.

Mr. Ben: I agree with you that it requires an answer, but I am afraid that in my humble opinion we are overlooking the more serious aspects of the whole situation, and that is an admission that in fact doctors are removing healthy organs from their patients and we have no way of determining how many such healthy organs are being removed and by which doctors. How many doctors, for example, have been suspended or even stricken off the register for removing too many healthy organs?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot give you those figures.

Mr. Ben: Of course you cannot give them to me, Mr. Minister, nor do I expect you at this time to be able to give them to me. But surely this is something that would demand the presence before our committee of a responsible member of the Ontario Medical Association or the College of Physicians and Surgeons; probably the latter because each and every doctor need not belong to the Ontario Medical Association?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But before you came in I was mentioning to—

Mr. Ben: I am sorry, answer those questions.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Before you came in I was outlining to the committee that we have legislation ready which will give OHSIP the power to conduct both medical and financial audits, and as you will recall from my speech, the College of Physicians and Surgeons itself has expressed great willingness to accept legislative power in these fields itself. Insofar as what has gone on in the past, perhaps Dr. Aldis could give you more facts than I.

Dr. Aldis: Mr. Chairman, the situation regarding tonsillectomy is a little different from that, say, of taking out appendices. Almost any child in this country has diseased tonsils at some time or another during a winter. So when a tissue audit committee gets reports from the pathologist the diagnosis is practically always diseased tonsils, because 90 per

cent of Canadian kids have diseased tonsils at some time during the winter.

Mr. Ben: But do 90 per cent of Canadian children have their tonsils removed?

Dr. Aldis: In six months' time those tonsils may be perfectly normal. And in fact by the time they are in adolescence or the time they are grown up their tonsils may be just as normal as the day they were born. So this then becomes a matter of medical judgement as to whether these tonsils should be taken out. Conservative opinion says that not more than 2 per cent or 3 per cent should be taken out. Sort of half way between conservative and radical opinion might allow 25 per cent or 35 per cent.

But when you get up to 50 per cent, 60 per cent, up in there, then I think probably this is exceeding the balance of what most conscientious experts in the field would consider reasonable. But the tissue audit committee would be no help in this particular case because the report would inevitably read "diseased tonsils."

Mr. Ben: I concur in that analysis, doctor, because there have been many, many people who have been preaching exactly what you say, that tonsils need not be removed. Very, very seldom does the welfare of the child require tonsils to be removed, even though at the particular time they may be diseased. That is just one aspect of it. But I would still like you to take action and have you undertaken that you will take action to have these questions answered by Dr. Colquhoun or somebody else what does constitute the removal of too many normal—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I think the people to answer this are not Dr. Colquhoun or the OMA itself. The professional body we are really dealing with here when we get down to medical judgements and good practice is the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Mr. Ben: Fine; okay. We have had a lot of discussions, Mr. Chairman, asking for statistics, and you justifiably stating that you cannot supply us with the statistics because there were two bodies paying OHSIP claims—one being the government of the Province of Ontario and the other Healthco. And that is right, I accept that. But if I may be permitted, once again being repetitious, considering we are a province of only 7.5 million people—maybe it is a little more, I stand to be corrected, but it is close enough—why cannot we have a central computerized

medical library as they do in Stockholm, Sweden?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will have as of July 1, 1972, a unit covering, consistently, the whole operation. Because by that date the designated agencies will have phased themselves out, or will be phasing out as of that date and we will be under a single unit. The kind of thing you are asking for is just a question of building up your programmes.

Mr. Ben: Let us not be presumptive and make sure we are ad idem. I said centralized, computerized medical history bank. Not the charging of accounts.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no. We will get that from the patients' history.

Mr. Ben: In other words, every doctor who makes his preliminary assessment—general assessment—would repeat that into a government computer and the patient having an OHSIP card could then attend any hospital, hand the card to the admitting departments, they would insert it into a machine that they have there, or teletype the number to the central computer, and the central computer would then give the complete medical history of that patient as they do in the Danderyd hospital in Sweden.

Is that correct? This is what is going to start in 1972?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We will not have that total capacity as of July 1, 1972. But we will have the capacity programmed to deal with medical practice. We will also have the capacity to deal with patient utilization. Beyond that, I do not think anyone would quarrel with the point you are making, to the extent that we can do it and afford to do it, computerization of our total hospital and medical system into one big bank is of course merely a logical step forward, and certainly at the level in our hospital system you can see how extraordinarily important this will be.

Mr. Ben: I take it then that we understand each other and you are telling this committee that effective April 1, 1972—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, July 1, 1972, we will cover the first and fundamental stages, namely—

Mr. Ben: What are the fundamental stages?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As I have described it, as I see it—

Mr. Ben: The billing aspect?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All that will be in one unit. Yes, it will be one billing system. It will be one bill. And it will be one computerized system which will be able to give us, as I said, patient use and doctor practice.

Mr. Ben: July 1, 1972! Is that date going to be the commencement of the feeding-in date or is that going to be the commencement of the feeding-out? In other words, is that when you are going to start feeding the information into the computer or is that the date they are going to start getting information out of the computer!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well a lot of the information at the moment will be in the computer's memory. I do not know.

Mr. Ben: I am referring to medical records. Are you going to ask the hospitals to forthwith set up a programme to start codifying their hospital histories so that they can be fed into the computer and start designating which hospitals will start feeding? For example, I imagine the Toronto General Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children, or at least the Hospital for Sick Children probably would be the most logical one to start with, and then the Toronto General, the big general hospitals; then go from those to the smaller hospitals so that eventually it may have a medical history of every patient in Ontario? After that, you may have to go into the private offices. I do not think—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot promise—

Mr. Ben: —you are never going to get into the private offices because some people may just not want their medical histories to be known.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All I am ascribing to is how far we can go, or are going, because it is a fixed date as of July, 1972. After that, I can see no reason why we should not continually make our programme more sophisticated, and as the member suggests this means picking up more information from our hospital system. Some of our hospitals are quite ready for fairly sophisticated computerization at the moment, are they not? But there are a lot of them that are years away from becoming a general system.

Mr. Ben: Okay. Now, Mr. Minister, you received a letter from the Ontario Association

of Massage Therapy dated May 1, 1971. Would the minister care to give us his comments on that letter? I imagine—

Mr. Ferrier: It came from my community.

Mr. Ben: —there are copies of it.

Mr. Ferrier: Tony Martin has written me about it as well.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I have seen it; but I have forgotten what it is about.

Mr. Ben: Well this is with reference to the Ontario Association of Massage Therapy, an institute of masseurs who take patients only on referral from doctors. They feel that their services should be included in OHSIP. A lot of their rules specify that they can accept patients "on medical referral only." Many of the doctors' associations say that they perform a useful function. Patients are referred to them and feel that there should be OHSIP coverage of their services. Does the minister recall now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but they are not alone, of course.

Mr. Ben: I am just asking the minister to comment on this particular association. They wrote you. I had better read it for you, okay? I will try to paraphrase it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, it is okay. It is on a pattern that applies, of course, to every activity in relation to medicine. I have not heard of any that would not like to be under OHSIP.

Mr. Ferrier: This is only referring to one group, though.

Mr. Ben: I would point this out to you, Mr. Minister, just reading from page 3:

A referred patient with civil service coverage is eligible for our service if he or she is a federal government employee. However, should the patient be an Ontario civil servant, other forms of treatment are offered without prior medical examination diagnosis but the same patient is denied coverage from massage therapy on a diagnosis prescribed basis of the attending physician.

Right there is an indication that our civil servants, our people, are in fact being discriminated against if federal civil servants can receive this treatment.

Surely the minister must have read this. Surely he must have given it consideration.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but as I say it is part of a very large group and we are dealing with very important principles. We could double the cost of OHSIP, I think, by allowing its operation to cover other than the profession and disciplines that it now covers.

One of the reasons I would take that under advisement, as the phrase goes, is that we are right in the midst of very hard work—we discussed it earlier in this committee—trying to sort out what the disciplines are, what the definitions of their field of action should be, what their responsibilities are and how they shall be governed, how they should be disciplined. The whole thing has been raised by the report of the committee on the healing arts.

I can see no bigger project than the one that sits before me, or will sit before any Minister of Health for the next year or two, than to get into this back-breaking legislative job of defining the disciplines, stating the parameters of their responsibilities and assessing how this will fit functionally into our health services, and ultimately, to the member's question—at what point does it fit financially into our health system?

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, the services of the Ontario Association of Massage Therapy were covered by Blue Cross, by the Workmen's Compensation Board, by The Department of Veterans' Affairs and the federal Civil Service insurance.

The groups that I have mentioned are certainly not irresponsible, fly-by-night groups—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, no, no!

Mr. Ben: —and if they recognize the validity of the services rendered by members of this association—the Ontario Medical Association has sent them many, many letters of recommendation showing the value of their services—then why in heaven's name does the minister dilly-dally so long to make this type of service one that is paid for by OHSIP? If a doctor says that this service is necessary for the patient's health and well-being as part of a medical treatment programme, then I say that the government should pay for it.

Mr. Ferrier: I would just like to wind up my facts a little on this particular score. It has been dealt with in the commission of the healing arts and since they only see patients who are referred to them by medical people, and there is a very good relationship between

the medical profession and this group, and since there are only a very few of them in the province, I really feel that due consideration should be given to them, that an investigation should be made, and, if possible, they should be covered in the OHSIP plan.

Mr. Ben: For goodness' sake, Mr. Minister, so far people have said nice things about you—even our good friend, Mr. Ferrier. I hope that the minister will not start getting into a rut and start giving us that poppycock about "due course." We expect better things of you than those kind of statements, or "in the fullness of time."

Mr. Bullbrook: We will not be holders in due course.

Mr. Chairman: Is the member for Humber finished?

Mr. Ben: No, I just want to get one more fact in here.

The next part has to do with paramedical personnel. You have informed us, Mr. Minister—I guess to the surprise of many of us—that in the place of the scarcity which we anticipated in the supply of nurses, the seven years of plenty have come early and we now have a surplus. But I rather feel that we still have a scarcity of what would be called paramedical personnel.

I was reading that in the 1900s there were about 60 of the personnel of the type of nurses, dentists, laboratory technicians, pathologists, and so forth for every 100 doctors. These figures are for the United States.

In 1966 this figure increased to 365 or 375 such personnel for every 100 physicians and the number now would be closer to about 400. The talk these days is not so much about supplying more hospital beds, but about what they call comprehensive community health centres and these centres cannot operate unless we have an adequate supply of this type of personnel.

I imagine dentists probably would be one example, if we are going to include dental treatment in OHSIP coverage or have a universal medical health scheme. Doctors these days, in fear of law suits, are inclined to give more tests than they would have years ago. That may not be the sole reason, and I am willing to admit that we have just become more expertise in diagnosing patients and we have more scientific equipment at our disposal and if the equipment is there, there is a tendency to use it. I do not know if that is Peter's law or Parkinson's law or somebody's—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not Peter's principle. It is Parkinson's law.

Mr. Ben: It is Parkinson's law and I dare say that a lot of the extra expense for these tests is not so much that the doctors are greedy for more money but a lot of it is attributable to their thoroughness. But at any rate, one of the things we do lack is a sufficient number of these types so we can set up community clinics.

At one time we visualized the family doctor as a benign, smiling, kindly, authoritative individual, who would have treated two, perhaps three generations of a family without once having inquired into their ability to pay for any of the services. And he was available any hour of the day or night in any season and always seemed to have either an answer or a cure in the little black bag. I do not know if that was ever a true image—

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Too many late shows.

Mr. Ben: I do not believe it was ever a true image, but the fact remains that now one cannot get a doctor. There is great difficulty in getting a doctor to one's own bedside and, if he does come the chances are the black bag contains nothing but a stethoscope and some aspirins—I am not denying the curative power of aspirin—and he ends up in a hospital or a clinic, where most patients are eventually sent.

Furthermore, one does not seem to be able to get into a hospital bed anymore except through the door of an emergency department. And the question is, are we putting all our eggs in one basket? Are we centralizing all our hospitals in one area? Are we concentrating too much on specialists? Should we not start now in creating these community comprehensive health treatment centres?

I am trying to find a reference, Mr. Minister, but I heard a talk given by Mr. Munro, the federal Minister of Health, where he was discussing these types of centres. I want to know, has he given any money to this province to establish—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Has who?

Mr. Ben: He—the federal government—Munro.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right!

Mr. Ben: Has the federal government given any money to this province for setting

up some kind of pilot community comprehensive health centre? If so, where is this centre?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Ben: I know this is under hospitals, but I am also talking about personnel, you understand.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. Ben: Let me read this:

Hospitals are entering a new era in which they can service centres for comprehensive community health and allied social needs. Hospitals are becoming more socially conscious, serving the environmental and emotional needs of the patient as well as his physical needs in modern society.

Now the questions I asked are (a) Are we doing anything to set up these comprehensive community health and social centres? (b) Has the government; if so, where? (c) If so, is the federal government putting up any money or have we asked for any money? And if we have not, why not?

He says, "This is the coming thing. Let us start now." And in order to do it properly we would have the type of personnel that I mentioned. I would throw this up to him: If we have not any of these centres within the community—see issue dating 71-83—and if he thinks it is so good—at least I think it is so good—you might tell him very politely, rephrase it in parliamentary language, that he should put his money where his mouth is.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I know at the moment the federal minister has on his desk a request—at least I am told he has a request—from Dr. Tulchinsky's Ottawa proposal for exactly that. I do not know whether he said yes or no to the Ottawa exercise. As I mentioned earlier on in the estimates, we have the Sault Ste. Marie and St. Catharines operations going at the moment. Then we have 19 different projects or something like that. Perhaps Dr. Reid could give an overview of how things are developing in relation to clinics, community clinics and, for the moment, the general field that Mr. Ben was discussing.

Dr. G. W. Reid (Research and Planning): Apart from the clinics in St. Catharines and the Soo, the first priority in the province has been an attempt to establish this type of operation in the teaching situation, so that

the medical undergraduates and the nurses can receive some training in these units. The net result has been that each of our five health sciences centres now has what they call family practice teaching units, which in fact are community health centres.

Mr. Ben: Where are these centres, if I may interrupt?

Dr. Reid: For example, in London there are two that started off as hospital-based operations; one has now moved into the community, away from the parent hospital. So there are two teaching units associated with the University of Western Ontario. They now have a proposal before us to establish a third in a rural community at Muncey, which serves an Indian population. The thought there is to again establish a pilot project which will serve as an example; it would also serve as a teaching model in a rural situation.

If you move to McMaster University, the new medical school there, I think they have two in Hamilton; and they have another one just developing a bit away from Hamilton, at Smithville.

In Toronto, there are family practice teacher units in association with our major teaching hospitals; now they are also moving away from the hospital base. There is one being established on St. George Street, and I think there is another one being established in the Parkdale area; we have a feasibility study going there.

In Kingston, we have again the same pattern with a rural unit at Parham and another one being diverted to Seeleys Bay, which I think is some 25 miles northeast of Kingston. And there is the same pattern in Ottawa.

So the first stage has to be created in these community health centres in relation-ship to the teaching situation. We are now beginning to receive proposals; we have another one coming in from Midland, for example—

Mr. Ben: From where?

Dr. Reid: Midland—for community health centres which will serve again as pilot projects to demonstrate the feasibility of groups of doctors working in a community to serve a geographically defined community, with these doctors suitably backed by the available talents of other help professionally.

Mr. Ben: Has the department given consideration to dividing the province into these

comprehensive community health service districts?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, what we have been doing is cultivating them as the natural outgrowth of our health sciences centres and of our hospital function in the teaching sense. Belleville is also an area where interest has been shown—

Dr. Reid: There is interest, yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —and we are encouraging them on that basis to press on and grow where it appears to them to be feasible. I do not think we have reached the stage of chopping the province into areas and demanding that they develop in each area. But, as you can see, the coverage is very broad and is increasing.

Mr. Ben: Maybe it should not be a question of demanding. What I visualize is the province divided into these districts, and these clinics not being divorced from hospitals but being adjuncts to the hospitals; in other words, being satellites of a central hospital which could even be a teaching hospital.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is what they are in most cases.

Mr. Ben: But each district in Ontario should be divided into districts, and each district should have a central general hospital that can perform almost any type of surgery or give almost any type of treatment, with perhaps some specialty being referred to a central university hospital in Toronto, the Toronto General for example. These community centres would then radiate from the central hospital like spokes from a wheel.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, we are using our five health sciences centres as the focal point for this kind of growth, and I think that is a good base. Ultimately, of course, where we do not have this kind of coverage, we will have to develop something new; in other words in the north, as an example.

Mr. Ben: When you put the question, "Should we demand it of them?" that sort of implies—at least in my mind—a question: Who pays for these pilot projects, these health centres or you?

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister of Health): Mr. Minister, these projects are being funded largely under the Health Re-

sources Development Plan, but I think the feature that needs to be appreciated is that there is just no one model that is the answer, and what we are trying out is a number of different approaches to providing comprehensive health care through these centres.

Another feature that we have to learn something about is a method of financing, particularly with regard to the support personnel, and what would be an equitable way of providing support for each of these centres.

They are developing rapidly, I think as Dr. Reid has indicated, from the focal points that are based on our health sciences centres, and we expect that tying this in with training programmes, not only training programmes that relate to medical personnel but also the allied health personnel referred to, by the member for Humber, having a training location for this type of person so that they can get actual on-the-job experience, and then, as the minister has indicated, work further out from these five focal points.

Mr. Ben: This is it, because I think each one of these community centres should also have radiating out from them halfway houses, for instance for drug addiction, alcoholic addiction, small mental health units and rehabilitation centres. This is where your extended care units could also come in, radiating from out of these clinics and—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There are several concepts here, though, that are different and quite difficult. One is moving out in this field as an extension, a satellite system, in relation to the health care delivery that starts, shall we say, at a basic health sciences centre or top-grade teaching hospital.

We are also running into, and are very interested in, the assessment of clinics organized by units of the population themselves which is another—

Mr. Ben: That is like the Parkdale unit. Is that what you were talking about, Dr. Reid?

Dr. Reid: No.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Now here you have a different approach and you were in the midst of assessing—and I suppose we will be for a while—such intangibles as loyalty quotients. You know, what group of people with what particular common denominator will be loyal for how long to what particular organization. Will the public in a

particular area accept and under what circumstances will they accept the locked-in aspect of loyalty to a particular clinic? We are keeping our options open, but at the same time, as Dr. Reid has mentioned, it is quite a vigorous development.

Mr. Ben: They say many of the reasons why many people do not have a family physician, although they should—because the family physician should know the social background of his patient and his surroundings, etc., to have a better concept of his needs and refer him to the necessary social agency or medical services—is that the modern population is so mobile. It moves on an average of four times during its lifetime and it is very difficult to build up the close rapport that is required between a “family physician”—and I put that in quotation marks—and the average individual.

I can understand the problem but this is one of the things that motivated me to try to pressure you and this government into setting up a system of computerized medical histories so that we would not have doctors continuously doing general assessments—not because they are charging them more, but it is a waste of much needed and scarce talent to continue to take new histories every time the patient comes in, when they could just feed a number into a computer and get all this.

In human events 1972 is not that far away but on the other hand I am still not satisfied what you are going to be starting that day, whether it is giving out information or asking for information or a combination of both. I wish you were a little more specific but I am glad to hear, Mr. Chairman, from Dr. Reid that steps are in hand—although I must say I am extremely disappointed because, from listening to Dr. Reid, I gather that this is really in the pioneering stage. I cannot see anything concrete on any kind of a large gratifying scale developing from this for a minimum of five and possibly 10 years. This is what I find rather depressing and disturbing.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to bring up the topic of the overbilling that had been discussed a little earlier in the afternoon. The minister surely must have had experience with the Windsor medical services prior to its assimilation into the department. Now that it is part of the overall

department, could he compare the extent of the bills submitted to the association with the amount of bills that are submitted to the same location, to the same place, under a different name.

Dr. Aldis: Mr. Chairman, as I am sure the member for Windsor-Walkerville knows, we have admired Windsor Medical Services as a very tidy and effective operation for some time. They still have the same medical director and the same branch manager running it.

They ran a very tight ship before because the doctors owned it; the doctors were under contract to them. If a doctor submitted accounts which seemed to their taxing committee as being unreasonable, the taxing committee just said “Uh, uh!” and they just cut the accounts—like that. Of course, the physicians had no alternative but to accept this because this was done by their peers. They had no way in which they could go back to the patient and collect the amount that had been deducted from their bills.

Unfortunately, we do not have that same legislation. We will have, and I can assure you that we will proceed on lines very similar to the way Windsor Medical Services operated in the past. All we need is the legislation which the minister has told you we are getting.

Mr. B. Newman: Under Windsor Medical Services there certainly was no complaint on the part of the patient or the medical profession itself. I think that Mr. Walpole, Vern Walpole, who managed the plan, and Dr. Morton, who was the medical adviser, certainly operated a most efficient organization. I thought that possibly with both men in the same position today, but now working for you as opposed to working for the medical profession as before, you would have a good source of comparison, whether or not there had been overbilling. Apparently, you do not have those records to say that there is a considerable amount of discrimination—I should not discriminate, a considerable amount of difference between the bills submitted prior to the assimilation compared to after the assimilation.

Dr. Aldis: We have those records, Mr. Chairman. We have Windsor medical services' old records and their present records which they are now compiling as a part of OHSIP. There is no question their utilization is increasing just the same as everybody else's is. It will continue to increase—

Mr. B. Newman: Has it increased substantially though?

Dr. Aldis: I cannot give you any precise figures but certainly enough that they are concerned and we are concerned.

Mr. B. Newman: I have several items that I would like to bring up at this time and one is in the premium payments dependant as defined in one fashion. Under The Income Tax Act a dependant is defined in a different fashion. Could the department not consider the income tax definition of a dependant so that an individual attending school or university would still be considered a dependant for premium payments.

After all, we should be going all out to help students complete their university education if at all possible. If we could simply consider as a dependant one who is still dependant on the head of the family and continuing his education, until the time he completes the education, he would after that period, go back to the single status and pay that single individual's premium as opposed to the way it is billed today. Would the minister consider that at all?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. I think it is particularly appropriate that in the next few months we are going to have to develop our new premium, the single premium, to cover both schemes. Of course, when you put that premium together it is quite a pertinent consideration to have before us.

Mr. B. Newman: Right. Then would you likewise consider a similar type of procedure when it would come to hospitalization premiums; in the medical you have the three tier premiums and in hospitalization you only have the two.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have got to combine them into one.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, you will combine them into one. That is very good. I wanted to ask one other thing. We know there is a fairly substantial shortage of doctors in the Province of Ontario and apparently the only way you are going to get sufficient is either have them migrate from other countries into the province, or steal them after a fashion. You may call it immigration instead of stealing and so forth.

But you are going to have to develop more and more of your own soon. You are going to have to develop another medical school and I think I have heard in the past

that there is another medical school in the process or being contemplated.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): At Laurentian University.

Mr. B. Newman: Now that St. Clair College in my own community is developing a health service, has the minister received any representation from the University of Windsor for the establishment of a medical school?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but I may say that the establishment of one or more new medical schools does not have the highest priority because the best advice I can receive is the immediacy of the problem of beefing up our health personnel, particularly at the physicians' level—can better and more economically be met by using our present system of education better.

And that, as I think I mentioned some time ago, really directs us at the way in which we teach them, getting them out into the hospitals, expanding the number of hospitals that are involved in the teaching function. And the advice I have is that over the next number of years this is the direction in which we should move, rather than move into new institutions for teaching per se.

Mr. B. Newman: I make mention of the University of Windsor, not from the parochial point of view, but from the fact that we are close to extremely important medical facilities in the city of Detroit and at the University of Michigan, and the liaison between facilities in Windsor and those in the United States could be of substantial advantage to the Province of Ontario if it were taken into consideration at the time a new facility were seriously considered by the government. I would hope that the minister would look into that if he happens to be there at the time that consideration is being discussed.

I would like for one other topic, Mr. Chairman, to bring up the idea of the paramedical personnel that are being used today in the US armed services, the Medics. The government spends approximately \$20,000 in training these individuals for the services. They are used in the various military bases and in active duty overseas and they come back to the US and, rather than have them lose all of this expertise that they have developed, they are used by medical practitioners as sort of an assistant to the doctor.

An article in This Week magazine, that is distributed quite widely among the US

Sunday newspapers, is quite interesting concerning this. The term that they use for the individual is a Medex and I know the minister may have other paramedical personnel that he is thinking of, but here you happen to have an individual on whom substantial amounts of money have already been spent. The training is there, the experience is already there, and as a result the US is taking advantage of this. Primarily the western states, Washington, Oregon and California, I understand, are using this type of personnel.

I just bring that to the minister's attention so that the department, if they have not heard of the thing, could look into the thing and see if it has any value as far as our Canadian and Ontario medical programmes are concerned. That is it, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, I would like to come back to the billing of doctors. Since the statement of the minister in the House, that it would appear a small percentage of doctors have been overbilling your Ontario Health Services Insurance plan, I might say it has left doubt in a lot of people's minds. Some of the doctors, we know, are doing a tremendous job and a good job, but it would appear to some people that this leaves a stigma on our good doctors.

Did the minister ever consider that if the doctor gives a bill to the patient when a patient visits his office this would make it possible for you to make a clear check on either the doctor or the patient or whatever you wish? Would the doctors resent this, or have you given any thought to this whatsoever?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is one of those things that I have thought about, but I have not tested it on the doctors to know whether it would be a cause of resentment, professionally, or not.

Mr. Spence: But it would be one way of checking. It would be one way of proving, to the public or to the patient, that the doctor was doing a good job.

Another thing I would like to bring up, Mr. Chairman, with regard to the doctors, is the shortage of doctors in the Province of Ontario—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Spence, I do not believe that it is fair to say that there is. It was mentioned a minute ago that there was a shortage of doctors in Ontario, but basically what we have is a maldistribution.

Mr. B. Newman: We have two shortages—in other words, we have shortages in areas—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have got shortages in the north and we have shortages in some parts of rural Ontario and we are moving with our incentive programmes and support programmes to get them into the communities where they are short.

But on the overall, it is not accurate to say that we have a shortage of doctors.

Mr. Spence: They are short in some places. We visited your Dr. Copeman, who is head of that branch, a number of times, and he is doing a tremendous job and he is doing everything that any official could do. But I would say that in different parts of the Province of Ontario, we even have a number of doctors who are getting up in age and they would like to retire, but they just cannot retire because there are not enough doctors, I would say, in Canada.

As you know, your Dr. Copeman has to go to other countries in order to encourage doctors to come here. I would like to know what is the future outlook for doctors graduating in this province in the next year or two?

Mr. Ben: Two hundred thousand dollars a year.

Mr. Spence: That is enough.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might ask Dr. Reid to speak to the question of doctor supply?

Dr. Reid: I was looking for Dr. Copeman whom I thought was here but I cannot find him at the moment. Doctor supply: I think, Mr. Minister, you are correct in stating that taking the ratio of doctor to population, Ontario is fairly well supplied at the moment. I think there is something like one doctor per 730 of population and this compares very favourably with comparable jurisdictions.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): What are the comparable jurisdictions?

Mr. Ben: In Canada?

Dr. Reid: You can take the other provinces in Canada. You can take the states of the union or you can take Sweden, other European countries, Israel. You can make a comparison with other countries and other states where you can compare standards of living and other social practices.

Mr. Martel: What are the ratios in northern Ontario?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not think we have ever quarrelled with—I mean, that is why we have our incentive programme.

Dr. Reid: In the meantime, sir, we do have ratios by various parts of the province which we could make available.

Mr. Ben: Sure, all the doctors are before the committee here today.

Mr. Singer: Have we got those comparison figures?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. There are a whole page of them there.

Mr. Singer: Well, a few of them that he mentioned?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Could you go through a few of the ratio figures you have, Dr. Reid?

Dr. Reid: These are given by county districts. In Algoma, the ratio there is one to 1,248; in Brant, at one to 999; Bruce, one to 1,339; Carleton, one to 560; Cochrane, one to 1,387 and so forth. We have the complete breakdown of all counties and districts.

Mr. Singer: What about the other countries, as well?

Dr. Reid: Oh, other countries? Yes.

Mr. A. K. Meen (York East): Before you do that, doctor, what about York, and Metro?

An hon. member: One for one?

Dr. Reid: No, it is not quite that. York is one to 542.

Mr. Martel: What about Sudbury area?

Mr. Meen: And does that include Metropolitan Toronto, doctor?

Dr. Reid: I am not quite sure, really.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is by county, is it not?

Dr. Reid: Yes. It is total York. Sudbury is one to 1,189.

Mr. Martel: What about the Moosonee area?

Dr. Reid: I do not have the figure for Moosonee.

Mr. Martel: In Valley East which they have just designated, the count is a doctor and a half for 16,000 people.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Where?

Mr. Martel: Valley East Township—a doctor and a half for 16,000 people; other than that they must go to Sudbury.

Mrs. A. Pritchard (Hamilton West): All you can do is tranquillize them.

Mr. Martel: Well, it does not help a hell of a lot, I can tell you, when you are sick.

Mr. Ben: Not if you use that kind of language, it will not.

Mr. Martel: Well, the facetiousness just does not cut the mustard.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How far is it from Sudbury, Mr. Martel?

Mr. Martel: Well, it stretches from about 10 to 20 miles, from one end to the other of Valley East township.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Well, the minister could go door to door and tell them it is just a maldistribution and then it would reassure them.

Mrs. Pritchard: We will send you.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Would you like to hear from Dr. Copeman on the question of our programme in this regard.

Dr. W. J. Copeman (Public Health Service): I would just like to mention Valley East, Mr. Chairman. I visited there just recently. It is in the north suburbs of Sudbury. There are 14,000 and some odd people there and the figures of the doctors are there—one and a half, as you very graciously said. It was designated as underserved by at least another two physicians under our programme.

Mr. Martel: The only question I want to raise is, have you approved the plans that the Caisse Populaire has submitted to you for the facilities that they are willing to build to house three doctors and two dentists?

Dr. Copeman: We do not formally approve the plans. Under our programme it is the responsibility of the local municipality to see that adequate housing and clinic facilities are available at a reasonable rental. We advise the municipality that the plans should be architecturally designed with medical consultants, and if they submit the plans to us we are pleased to look at them and make suggestions.

We did see these plans recently. I wrote them a letter and advised them not to go

ahead until we have seen them and talked to them directly about them, because there are a number of basic errors in those plans which should not be permitted to go up.

Mr. Martel: We just wondered. I just wanted to make sure that they do not make a mistake because—

Dr. Copeman: Basically the plans are wrong, I told them—

Mr. Chairman: We have to keep this in order. Mr. Spence, are you finished?

Mr. Spence: I will have some questions later on.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pitman is next in order.

Mr. Ben: Could I ask a question on this doctor distribution? Since your figures show that there are three times as many doctors per capita in the county of York in southern Ontario as there are in northern Ontario, what, may I ask, are you offering as inducements to alter that ratio to the benefit of the people of the north? I believe you said in the riding of the member for Sudbury East there is one doctor for 1,700 or 1,800 people; here in York the ratio is one for less than 600.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, could Dr. Copeman just describe the programme and maybe that will cover a bunch of questions.

Dr. Copeman: Faced with the maldistribution of physicians in Ontario, effective October, 1969, this department introduced a programme to attract physicians to areas of the province designated as underserved. Our list of areas is the result of municipalities, town councils, interested citizens, and members of parliament writing in to the department and complaining about the lack of medical services available in that community.

We investigate these communities, visit them, talk to the doctors there, to the councils, to the service clubs, to the interested people in the community. Then a committee here reviews the findings and the area may be designated as underserved.

If the community is designated as underserved, a physician who would go there and establish general practice may apply to this department for a contract with a guaranteed annual income of \$26,000 a year, or an establishment-of-practice grant of up to \$14,000. In this programme our objective is to establish physicians in groups of two or

more, with one or more dentists as the case and the local situation will justify.

The practice of medicine today is not the sole practitioner working in isolation in a rural community, but it is true that in some situations we find it necessary to support a doctor in solo practice in the smaller areas which just could not justify any more being there.

Mr. Ben: Are you having success with this scheme, and if so, to what degree?

Dr. Copeman: At the present time we have, I think, 55 areas designated as underserved. We have a number of other communities to be investigated to see whether or not they should be so designated.

We have 70 doctors approved for the programme and 40-some of these have now established practice and the balance of these we expect to be established in their practice in the next few weeks.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): How many of these doctors have recently immigrated to Canada?

Dr. Copeman: Do you consider an immigrant to be from overseas, or from another province, or—

Mr. Braithwaite: From overseas.

Dr. Copeman: Yes, we do have a number from overseas.

Mr. Braithwaite: And what would the ratio be?

Dr. Copeman: I do not think I could give you this figure just off hand. We have doctors from the United Kingdom; we have one from the United States; we have them from Nigeria; from Biafra; from Guyana; from Trinidad; Pakistan—I think that is all I can say.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pitman.

Mr. G. W. Pitman (Peterborough): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might go back to the statement made by the minister at the beginning of the session. I would like to get some explanations.

I just do not know very much about the medical profession in terms of what is called billings. I am talking about claims submitted for detention times, the billings for detention. What do you mean by detention? All it says here is that it is when the physician is required to spend considerable extra time on behalf of the patient.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Could you give the exact definition, Dr. Aldis?

Mr. Pitman: Could you put this in layman's language? Is this when a person is very sick and a doctor has to stay with the patient?

Dr. Aldis: While we are looking up the precise definition, Mr. Chairman, this is a fee which a physician is allowed to charge for a call which keeps him longer than he would ordinarily expect it to be.

Mr. Pitman: How long would that be?

Dr. Aldis: I do not think I can say this.

Mr. Pitman: How long is a call?

Dr. Aldis: Again, I cannot say for sure; this varies with the individual. But let us say that an average office visit takes 10 to 15 minutes. This is not a general assessment. Rather than charge a general assessment we have an increasing number of doctors who are charging a detention fee, and this is a fee for half hour—I think I have the definition of it here.

Mr. Pitman: You do not have any statistics on this particular one? Do you have any statistics, for example, how many doctors are charging detention fees, or how much has it increased over the past number of months, which would indicate to you that there is this practice going on?

Dr. Aldis: We have some figures on it, yes.

Mr. Pitman: Could you give us any figures on this? I notice you have given figures for some other areas.

Dr. Aldis: First of all, Mr. Chairman, perhaps I might read this definition:

A detention fee may be charged when the physician is required to spend considerable extra time on behalf of the patient . . . and to the exclusion of all other work, according to the following formula:

\$5 per quarter hour or part thereof after the first half hour, provided the first half hour is spent in the partial assessment subsequent visit, or a general assessment in hospital when the patient has been seen before in the same illness.

\$5 per quarter hour or part thereof after the first hour, provided that the first hour has been in consultation, repeat consultation, specific assessment, general assessment or general reassessment.

This gives you some idea of the complications of the OMA fee schedule, to start with. They even put this into a computer rule, so you can see what we are up against.

Perhaps Dr. Kinloch can give you some of the figures that we have on the basis—

Dr. D. R. Kinloch (OHSIP): Yes, I think one simple figure might suffice, Mr. Chairman, in that since the programme of OHSIP began in October, 1969, there has been over a 100 per cent increase in the utilization potential base.

Mr. Pitman: How long?

Dr. Kinloch: About 18 months.

Mr. Pitman: Good. I will just skip the tonsillectomy. We have been around that course.

What do you mean by a physician having a financial interest in a laboratory? Do you mean that physicians set up a lab and then buy services from their own laboratory?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Pitman: You find that it has gone up—that the difference is almost double when they are buying from themselves than when they are buying from somebody else?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but again, as I caution over and over again, I raise these as questions and not as allegations. Let us consider the fact that where you do not have other laboratory services, who are to finance these but the doctors themselves? Therefore you get a leap in use automatically if you develop a laboratory. So you know we have got to be very careful of these figures and that is why we are looking into them, not on the basis of allegation but on the basis of a question.

Mr. Pitman: I would like to come to the next one. You suggest that some physicians are on a high income when providing service to a very minimal number of patients and you give us statistics here that the average for GPs is \$18.67. Is that for three months, from July 1 to September 30? Five GPs have an income per patient of over \$300. Would that be for three months, from July 1 to September 30? You have six psychiatrists with income for patient of over \$200?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is correct.

Mr. Pitman: These are for three months. It is not for the full year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no; the three months.

Mr. Pitman: What kind of an investigation is going on of these questions, not the allegations?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: At the moment, it has to be inadequate in that, as I mentioned, perhaps before you came in, we have not put the legislation into the House that gives us the overall power to do a total medical audit and financial audit. How deeply can we go into individual cases? Dr. Aldis, how deeply do you go into individual cases at this stage?

Dr. Aldis: We cannot do very much at the moment, sir, except just talk to the doctor. We have had meetings with representatives of the Ontario Medical Association with some 12 physicians and have confronted them with this information regarding their practice and have asked for their explanation.

Mr. Pitman: These are 12 doctors who are members of the—

Dr. Aldis: These are 12 individual doctors.

Mr. Pitman: Are they offending doctors?

Dr. Aldis: These are 12 "offending" doctors.

Mr. Pitman: Questionably offending doctors.

Dr. Aldis: Questionably offending doctors would be a better term. We have interviewed and asked for explanation of their practices. We have discussed the matter with them and told them what we think is wrong with their practices. We have told them that their practices will be under close scrutiny from now on and we have already, in fact, got a second report on three of them. We are pleased to report that out of those three, there have been reasonable improvement in two of them and substantial improvement in one of them.

One more thing I was going to say, that the minister mentioned about the type of audit that we have to perform. For example, we interviewed a doctor the other day, who said that as part of his practice, he owned a nursing home. We automatically assumed that because he owned a nursing home that a high percentage of his practice would be nursing home chronic type care and yet we found among his accounts very few bills or statements for chronic type care. This is the type of audit that we must be able to do and that our new legislation will give us, to be able to go into that man's office and ascertain, in fact, whether he did perform chronic

type care on these patients in the nursing home, but in fact billed us for acute care. This is the type of information that we must have.

Mr. Pitman: I want to go into what this new legislation you would need to do this. But are you indicating that under The Health Services Insurance Act the government must pay virtually every claim that is made upon it? Let us suggest that some of these questions are not questions but allegations. Do you mean to tell me, if it was proven that the doctor was defrauding The Health Services Insurance Act, there would be nothing the government can do? You have to have more legislation to carry out that kind of investigation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If, and I do not know of any case where we have found fraud—

Mr. Pitman: Has there ever been a case of fraud found by the Ontario government?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There has not.

Mr. Pitman: What do you mean by "reasonable improvement, substantial improvement?" It seems this is like a student with marks. I think you are either carrying out the responsibilities of the Act and of the rules and regulations under the Act or you are not. Your only charging once out of three times is not an improvement. He is breaking the law.

Mr. Lewis: How do you reasonably improve your billing procedures? What does that mean—two doctors "reasonably improved and one substantially improved"?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the particular case that was described, the amount of the use of detention time charges dropped very substantially.

Mr. Pitman: Do you mean that you have no way of proving under The Health Services Insurance Act that a doctor is defrauding the government?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have not been able to. Happily, we have not had to face this, but the point is that we have had an inadequate governmental audit power.

Mr. Pitman: Audit power?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Both as to financial audit and as to medical audit.

Mr. Pitman: Has The Health Services Insurance Act ever refused to pay a doctor for billing?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Have we?

Dr. Aldis: Not to the best of my knowledge, not as long as the service has been performed, as far as we know.

Mr. Pitman: I am sure there have been patients who have written in and said that they have been charged and the doctor has not performed the service.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, there have been lots of bills corrected though. I have seen some myself.

Dr. Aldis: We have not had anyone write in, sir. We have had no information of any kind that a service was not performed by any physician. We have not been able to verify this in any circumstance.

Mr. Pitman: In other words, everything on which you are basing your questions is entirely statistical. Based on percentages of the types of services that are being given, the more expensive services seem to be increasing somewhat questionably. That is essentially the entire basis on which your questions were asked.

Dr. Aldis: Yes.

Mr. Pitman: When The Health Services Insurance Act was put through, surely there was something in that Act which stated that the health services did not have to pay if there was some feeling that the service as stated by the doctor was not carried out. There is surely something in that Act?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, a general administrative power, but that is all.

Mr. Singer: PSI used to do administrative checks.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: PSI had a taxing committee of sorts, did it not?

Dr. Aldis: Yes, the doctors were under contract to Physicians' Services Incorporated. They had a signed contract with them and they guaranteed, or at least they accepted, in the contract that they would accept PSI's level of payment. If PSI felt that their level of service was over and above the average for their community, they taxed their account and they reduced their account maybe by 15 or 20 per cent. This was known as taxing and, by the terms of his contract, a physician member of PSI had to accept that taxing or else resign from PSI.

An hon. member: That was not built into the previous legislation?

An hon. member: We do not have that in our legislation.

Mr. Pitman: What do you have in the legislation, then? What controls do you have in The Health Services Insurance Act?

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): PSI had a system where they would prorate a doctor in a certain area, would they not? If there was a certain rate in an area and the doctor seemed excessive, they would go after him?

Dr. Aldis: Yes, sir. That is what they term as taxing.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The legislation that we will be putting before you soon will include a taxing power.

Mr. Pitman: What is the nature of the legislation. How do you mean—a taxing power?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Where we can say that a bill is excessive in relation to the services performed by others.

Mr. Singer: Will you arrogate to yourself similar powers to those that PSI previously had only by virtue of contract? You can do it by legislation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. Pitman: I understand that The Health Services Insurance Act specifically says that the director has power to decide whether service is medically required. Is that not in the Act itself?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Medically required!

Mr. Pitman: Yes, that is, if they submit bills, and a doctor submits bills, for most of these matters you have discussed here. It is quite legitimate for the director of the Ontario Health Services Insurance simply to state that he has reason to believe that those services were not being provided and he could simply refuse to pay?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but you are in a very difficult position unless you have an audit power to back it up, so you can go in and dig out the facts.

Mr. Pitman: Can you not charge a doctor?

Once you charge a doctor, can you not take the legal process of proving that he is depriving the government?

Mr. Trotter: If you do you are leaving yourself open to libel or slander.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If we have evidence of fraud—and we have not been able to turn up a case where we have had evidence of fraud—of course, it would be a criminal prosecution. You can see the very difficult situation the plan was in, and will be in, until we get some new legislation, which I have discussed a number of times here during the estimates, without the power not only of financial audit, but of medical-cum-financial audits.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Do you have anyone now to check with the patient to see that they were given the service rendered by the doctor?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is some spot checking, is there not?

Dr. Aldis: Yes.

Mr. Ruston: The Windsor medical services did this a considerable number of times in their own area, and they called different patients to see if they did attend a doctor the day he sent in a bill.

Dr. Aldis: We do this, and have done this for some time.

Mr. Pitman: And you have never turned up one?

Dr. Aldis: This is an audit, but we have never turned up any case where the patient said the service was not performed.

Mr. Lewis: Is that the only reason for the spot check? Surely the spot check was more than simply to adduce whether or not the procedure was performed? Surely it was to find out whether there had been these various deviations which the minister described? And if you have been spot checking since October, 1969, which we have been assured you have—at least, other ministers have said the spot checks were continuous—then what has happened to all those spot checks?

Dr. Aldis: I think the spot checks, Mr. Chairman, would not give us any information about what a doctor performed. A patient would be, I think, an exceedingly poor judge as to what a doctor did and the value of what a doctor did. The first thing most patients do when they get this audit form is call up the doctor and say "Doc, did you see me on the 25th?" and the doctor looks at his books and says "Yes." This is very true.

Mr. Pitman: Was this the level of the spot checks? Is that the kind of spot check that was being done by this department?

Dr. Aldis: This is only after services which were not performed. We had no authority to do anything else.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Chairman, for example, a patient can tell time. If you are talking over a telephone or directly with a person he can tell you whether he was detained for 15 minutes or 30 minutes or two hours. If that is an area which he says has gone up something like 200 per cent since the beginning of the bringing in of OHSIP, surely that kind of a spot check would reveal that somebody is defrauding somebody else? I just cannot understand it even on that basis.

It just seems unbelievable to me that you have not got one case of a doctor who is overcharging. Virtually all of this material which the minister has been bringing forward the last two or three weeks is entirely on the basis of statistical analysis of OHSIP receipts. It seems to me the spot check must be very limited.

Mr. Martel: Could you not do some?

Dr. Aldis: I do not know of any plan that uses a spot check as a means of checking—

Mr. Ben: Come on! My office defended some doctors that were caught by PSI for billing for services that they did not perform, and they were struck off the register. They have been reinstated now because they need doctors up north. They were caught false billing and it so happened that PSI got a bill from two doctors for having rendered service to the same patient on the same day at the same time.

Mr. Pitman: Could I ask the minister this: What is going to be the nature of the investigation once you get the legislation through the House? Will you have an investigatory body whose job is to carry out spot checks, to carry out audits? Is it now possible for doctors to cook the books, so to speak? Are you not going to lay charges? Is it not possible for this department to lay charges when you know a doctor is not providing services for the money he is collecting from the government?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: With the new functions which I hope the Legislature will provide me with, of course, we will have all the powers of investigation that we will need.

We will also have as I mentioned, next year of course, our computer programming to trigger where investigations are needed. Thirdly, and this is probably more important than either of those points, we will have the College of Physicians and Surgeons armed professionally with the same powers, which they do not have at the moment.

Mr. Pitman: What do you mean, the same powers?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Of medical and financial audit of their own members.

Mr. Pitman: Well, now, just a minute. Do you mean that the doctors themselves are going to be initiating the investigations, or is the government going to be initiating them?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are going to be parallel. We are both going to have the power.

Mr. Pitman: Who is going to be the one who takes the initiative? I mean, are you going to depend on the doctors? You are going to be giving the doctors' organization the powers which you do not even have now, according to your statement, under The Insurance Act. You are going to be giving them those powers and you are going to take those powers yourself? Why would you have both? What would be the purpose of both having equal powers and neither one being assigned responsibility for initiation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think the background of the kind of questions you have been asking suggests that the government needs this power and should exercise it. I expect that the main uses of powers will be through the health insurance plan itself, but it did seem to me also to be of considerable value to arm the profession itself with these powers.

Mr. Pitman: Do you not see any disadvantage in presuming to give the doctors the same power that you have got? That, in a sense, this will make the government more reticent because if a doctors' professional organization has these powers, the question might well be "why are they not using the powers?" Therefore, the government will hold back and will wait to see if the doctors will move in on offending physicians.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. We are talking to some extent hypothetically because we do not know on a day-to-day basis how

—we do not even have the legislation at this point. But let me say this, that it appears to me that the medical and financial audit would be triggered in different ways insofar as the college is concerned and insofar as we are concerned.

We will have to rely to a very great extent on statistical information flipped out of our computer system. I would think that the college will start its traces often on the basis of citizen complaints and the other disciplinary functions that it exercises within the profession. In that kind of an investigation, namely, firstly, the medical audit, they will find themselves reaching into the financial audit. In our case I would think in most cases, it will be starting from the financial audit that we will get into the medical audit.

Mr. Pitman: Will it be necessary for you to inform each other when you are doing an investigation of a particular doctor? Or will the government move on its own in making an investigation of a particular physician?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The government will move on its own. There is no way in which we would consider ourselves generally bound to tell anyone. Nor would we want to because the mere happening of a medical or financial audit is of great concern to a doctor who might ultimately be proved to be very fair and economical in his practice.

Mr. Pitman: What you are saying is that under the present Act you have the power to deal with doctors in terms of paying them, but you do not have the means?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, we cannot do the detailed audit.

Mr. Pitman: No; that is what I mean, you do not have the machinery, let us put it that way, whereby you can carry on investigations that are worthwhile?

I would like to go into one more area, Mr. Chairman, for a moment. The report of the committee on the healing arts sections 19, 20 and 21; I would just like to know how far the minister is going; where he is in regard to these points?

That the fee schedule of the Ontario Medical Association be a matter of prior negotiation by the association and the Minister of Health who would be advised by the proposed fee negotiations advisory committee.

20. That the fee schedules thus negotiated should ordinarily be the upper limit of the fee charged.

21. That in negotiating fees with the physicians, the government, in co-operation with the physicians, consider methods of using the fee schedule to direct medical resources according to the community needs and priorities.

Mr. Ben: That is the Liberal platform.

Mr. Pitman: Where is the government in regard to this particular development? Does the government accept as a policy that section of the report of the committee on the healing arts? Where are you in developing your negotiations or relationships with the doctors on this?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think acceptance would be too strong. I personally have not, as you might picture at this particular time, had an opportunity of addressing myself as minister to the problem. When I have a bit of time—

Mr. Pitman: You must realize that is rather significant though; that this is rather an important matter in terms of controlling—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Very important, but I do have some time on this.

Mr. Pitman: How much time?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Two years.

Mr. Pitman: You mean the agreement ends in two years?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Pitman: And at that time you will be in a position to develop new relationships with the medical association?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes indeed. And my hope is that—whether or not it follows an interpretation of those recommendations—we will start something that is not pushed to the very end of the period, but that we settle into the development of our scale of benefits very soon and we work it up in a much more sophisticated way than we have in the past.

I think I have mentioned this in the Legislature—certainly publicly—that this will require a much increased governmental input insofar as policy is concerned as it relates to the fee schedules or the schedule of benefits themselves.

Mr. Pitman: I will assume that you will expect to have gone a long way toward determining what the roles of various health workers are before you get involved in that particular area of negotiating fees.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The Ontario Council of Health has that in hand at the moment and, as I was mentioning earlier, of course perhaps the big legislative project of the department in the future is to develop all these roles and define them in a statutory and regulatory sense.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, I have about four items that I would like to deal with. We are assured that on July 1, 1972, there is going to be a joining of the OHSIP and the Ontario Hospital plan.

Now one of those plans, OHSIP, has a form of premium assistance and at the present time Ontario Hospital does not, and it works a great hardship on many people. They find it extremely difficult to pay their Ontario Hospital premiums and I have had many in my office who say, "I just cannot afford it, I have got to let it drop. What can I do?"

The only thing you can say is that if you have little money you can probably have it picked up by the welfare department at the indigent rate. So what it is really doing is it is costing the municipalities money or the public treasury money, one way or another.

And I wonder if you have got any plans immediately, or in 1972, to make both of those plans the kind of premium subsidization and assistance on the same basis or are you going to continue as it is now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Excepting the criticisms that you have made of the present situation, I think it is obviously one of the highest policy as to what we will come out with when we combine them.

Mr. Ben: Oh come on.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well you assess it yourself, and I am not suggesting you do not.

Mr. Ben: You have to—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All I am saying is that I am not going to tell you what the government policy is going to be.

Mr. Ferrier: I hope that it becomes government policy because of costing the public treasury just as much, I would think, without the assistance for Ontario Hospitals as it would with, and I think that it would save quite a bit of money probably in administrative purposes.

The next item that I would like to deal with is the inclusion of prescription drugs in your OHSIP plan. It is very well for a person to be able to go to a doctor and get the best kind of diagnostic skills and treatment in the hospital to find out what is wrong with him, and then to cure the condition or stabilize the condition the doctor writes a prescription for certain kinds of medicine or tablets and so on, which might be an on-going long-term thing, it might be a short-term thing. I think that there is a very good case to be made for the inclusion of prescription drugs in your OHSIP plan. Are you considering that and is there a possibility that we can expect that in the immediate future?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is being studied and it is being studied and has been studied recently in very considerable depth. I have not had or seen the final report, but I do know that the question is not how nice it would be, but the question will hinge on the very practical one of the dollars to provide it. The preliminary assessments that I have heard of are that a total drug plan is quite an expensive operation.

Mr. Ferrier: Have you a figure as to the estimates that your department has made in the inclusion of a total drug plan?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are in a report that I am to receive. I will be getting a report on this in a couple of weeks, but all I know at the moment is the figures are extremely high.

Mr. Ferrier: Could you report either to me personally or to the House about this when it comes in?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Out-of-hospital drugs, Dr. Charron advises me, cost \$150 million a year, and then you add, of course—

Mr. Ferrier: I think at this point then, that is when you need a central drug purchasing agency which could purchase drugs at the same price probably as the hospitals and institutions are getting them now, and make them available through the retail outlets of the province which—according to

Manitoba's figure—save from 20 per cent to 30 per cent of the cost of drugs. I think the whole thing needs to have a very good review and consideration.

Another thing that we have been trying to get from the government for months and months is the administrative costs of the OHSIP plan as it is carried out by the government and has been carried out by the private designated agents. The minister last year assured us that he was going to table this in late October, before the end of the year. We have not seen it yet. And many of us felt that we should never have had those designated agents in the first place, that they probably cost us a good deal more than it would have cost us if it had all been handled under the one source. Can the minister inform us as to what the administrative costs have been?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What I might do is give you the overall figures and then ask Mr. Scott to give you the detailed figures. It might be of use to everyone if I distributed the basic breakdown of these costs and then I will ask Mr. Scott to give you the direct answer to your question.

Mr. Ferrier: Was there any reason why these were not tabled in the House as the former Minister of Health said they were going to be?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have not addressed my mind to it. I do not know.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Scott.

Mr. D. G. Scott (Director of Operations): The figures that are before you, Mr. Chairman, are figures in thousands of dollars. I am afraid the schedule that you have in your hand does not indicate that the last three zeroes have been omitted. The total claims cost, as you will observe there, \$470,242,000 and the administration costs against those claims are \$32,006,000. There are other payments to physicians and laboratory services of \$21,200,000, which are in the same order as the claims payments, and the ratio that comes out of the relation of these administrative costs to the total output of claims and other payments to physicians is overall—that is OHSIP Central and the agencies at large—in the order of 6.5 per cent.

Mr. Ferrier: Could we have the figures for the Healthco group and the government group? What are the percentages of the respective groups there?

Mr. Scott: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the figure for OHSIP Central as distinct from the figure for the outside agencies is 7.2 per cent, Healthco 5.29 per cent and AMS 6.34 per cent.

Mr. Ferrier: Can you give us some idea of why the OHSIP Central has been considerably higher than the Healthco?

Mr. Scott: Well, a comparison of costs between OHSIP Central and the costs of the outside agents is very difficult to make. As a matter of fact the costs of the outside agencies are computed after we have absorbed a percentage or a share of the total cost spectrum. In other words they are on a full accounted cost basis in a way that would be used by industry at large. When it comes to the government expenses there are certain costs that are included that the agencies do not have to support, and there are certain costs which we do not have to absorb in the government which the agents do. And we have never attempted to make a complete analysis of the comparable costs because of the vast diversity in the cost bases between the two orders of paying agents.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is also the nature of the people recovering. There is a difference.

Mr. Scott: Yes, I have just been reminded that there is a vast difference, as well, between the constituency covered. The tendency is for the outside agents to be dealing with groups in the middle age brackets where the health factor is quite a different situation from that with the people covered by the government agency itself. We have the young and the old and the indigent to deal with.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Trotter.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, the minister mentioned that there would be new legislation introduced in order to assist him and the government in controlling costs. There were two particular things I was interested in.

One was in controlling the costs of doctors having to do with outpatient services at the general hospitals. As probably most of you know, the medical doctors have formed associations in most general hospitals so that they are able to collect money for services that are paid for outpatient services. This, I think, has been open to a great deal of abuse.

For example, when the hospitalization scheme first came in, the government would pay to a hospital \$2.25 for each outpatient service. Then along came our medical scheme and we paid 90 per cent of the amount of money that a patient would have to pay if they went to a doctor's office. At one time it was \$4.50, I think it is now \$5.50.

The government now pays not only the \$2.25, but they pay 90 per cent of \$5.50 for each patient who goes to the outpatient service of a hospital. This amounts to a lot of money. Bear in mind that at one time neither the government or anybody else paid any money to the doctors for the outpatient services. I think they were just covered really under the hospitalization scheme.

Now the doctors, in forming their associations, have thrown the government contribution into a pot. They seem to have forgotten about the doctor-patient relationship—all that money just goes into one pot. In fact, I think some trust companies have even assisted in billing services and controlling the financial apparatus. Frankly, I am of the point of view that this is completely unfair because the doctors, if they saw the patient at their office, at least would have the overhead.

At one time I suppose the doctors, in the days before they received a fee for an outpatient service, may have had the advantage of having the patient referred to them at some future date. I would like to know if the government intends to limit this scheme and cut down the cost because I feel that they are paying far too much. If they were going to pay the doctors any money surely it should be \$2 a patient at the maximum, if that. I would like to know if there is any intention of the government of putting a stop to the doctors outpatient associations which they now have?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I do not think we want to stop this because it is built in to our changing patterns of practice. The development of outpatient services at our hospitals is going to be under great pressure and is. I find it popping up all over the province—the increase in the demand, the desire of the doctors to practice in this way.

All I can say is that we want to encourage it as a matter of necessity insofar as emergency outpatient and clinical practice is concerned. I will undertake to reassess whether or not we need to have stricter controls and a different formula in relation to our financial support for them.

Mr. Trotter: In some cases—I made this allegation once before and it was not refuted—the interns who are actually working in the hospitals take care of that patient and yet the doctors' outpatient association or whatever they call it gets the credit for that fee, despite the fact that a medical doctor may not actually have seen the patient.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is one of the points raised in the statement I made this afternoon.

Mr. Trotter: This has become widespread. What really is most disturbing in the first place is why did the government ever let it get started? Secondly this has been going on now for at least three years and no move has been made to stop it.

I would say that, assuming the doctors perform a service at the hospital they should not, in any sense of the word, get the same amount of money that they would get if they saw the patients at their offices. This is one way of controlling costs. Bear in mind that for a large proportion of these patients who the doctors at one time serviced they were not paid at all. They were not paid anything, so in some cases this is a complete 100 per cent increase in cost.

I think it is most unfair to the system, and I think if the doctors have enough sense they will change it themselves because they are bringing upon themselves a lot of unnecessary anger. In fairness to the doctors, I know that from the money they get from this outpatient service they do make contributions maybe to furnish a room or to supply a piece of equipment to the hospital. This has happened, but that is the rarity.

That is the exception, and most of this goes into their pockets and I think the government needs to take a severe control. I am assuming that this system is, as you say, built in and you feel that you can do nothing about it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not the system of payment—the system of practice or the system of health care delivery is one, I think, that the public as a whole is going to be leaning on more and more. I see no signs of us going back to the era of house-calling that you and I knew. I do see a continual increase in our public use of emergency and outpatient facilities.

Mr. Trotter: I suppose a lot of the cost would be cut down if you did have a clinic system where doctors were there, instead of using the individual system. I know the

doctors fear the loss of their patient-doctor relationship. As far as that outpatient business goes, there is no real doctor-patient relationship. These are people who are just there looking for a doctor, any doctor.

Their argument there breaks completely down. Otherwise, I do not want to interfere. I do not think we should interfere with the doctor-patient relationship where the patient actually goes to a doctor's office. I would be opposed to interfering with that, as long as their charges are reasonable.

One other item having to do with the control of costs. I have brought this matter up before because it is open to great abuse, and it is something on which costs could be cut back now. An example of what happened show how things can get completely out of control. We would think that by the development of modern science, you could decrease the cost of health care in many cases. I use the example of one machine—it is called the SMA 12 analysis—where you put one drop of blood in and you could get 12 different analyses done at once. At one time, if you went to a doctor and he had to go through the 12 procedures, it would cost you in the neighbourhood of \$50. Along comes this machine and they say they can do it for 50 cents. In fact, in one hospital close to the present minister's own constituency, the Ottawa City Hospital, they said we are not going to charge anybody anything. The next thing we hear there is a great hue and cry from, I assume, the medical profession, and they decided that the minimum charge would be five dollars.

Under the minimum scale, if you went to get a glucose test it would have been \$3 and you could have had 12 done for 50 cents, but the minimum charge became \$5. In other words, the price had gone up instead of going down, and I do not think any action was taken in regard to that. If it has, it has been of recent date.

But I would like to know if the minister, even under the powers he has got now within our hospitals, can put a stop to this and take more action than his predecessors have done? Or what type of controls are there going to be over the use of such machines?

I am not just referring to laboratory tests in private laboratories. We know that these charges have been excessive enough to bring in new legislation, but this can now go on in our own hospitals that can be controlled by the government as far as the costs are concerned.

Is there any hope that any action will be taken in the immediate future?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Insofar as laboratories generally are concerned, yes. But insofar as institutional laboratories are concerned, I think that the other side of the coin is that the cheaper the tests, the degree of encouragement of other procedures concerns some of our people who have studied it. So there is a certain balance here.

Mr. Trotter: I disagree with the minister on that. Suppose you only needed one test and the thing gave you 12 tests at once with one drop of blood; you get it all for 50 cents. There is no balance there. Mind you, they are charging now for a minimum 10 times what they say it can be done for and yet the Ottawa Civic Hospital said, "It is so inexpensive, we bought the machine. It is part of our capital equipment. We are not going to charge you anything."

What happens is that the individual patient or the taxpayer is paying that excessive cost. I have been complaining about this particular machine for at least three years and I assume it is still going on. I hope the minister will not say, "It is a built-in cost," because this is something that could be stopped tomorrow if they wanted to stop it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron could probably take you further on that.

Dr. Charron: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, there is a differential in the fee schedule for automated procedures. I think the question that needs to be raised with regard to automated procedures is, do these procedures in themselves stimulate other investigations that may not have a favourable effect on the cost and, in fact, would raise your costs.

This whole question of fee schedules for laboratories has been under very close scrutiny and we are thinking that laboratories probably should be put on a cost basis and paid for on the basis of the costs that they actually incur, rather than on a fee-for-service method. This would probably produce the results that you have suggested.

Mr. Singer: What kind of laboratory? A privately owned one?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All others than provincial laboratories.

Mr. Trotter: Why would they go to the Ottawa Civic Hospital and say, "Quit charging nothing."

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Pardon?

Mr. Trotter: Why would they go to the Ottawa Civic Hospital and say, "Quit charging nothing. You must charge \$5." Why?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know.

Mr. Trotter: Mind you, I have raised this before and nobody gives me an answer; I am no expert on this, but I assume that there must be hanky-panky going on someplace.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let me find out.

Mr. Trotter: That is an example. Again, there are so many procedures. I assume part of it, the way the increased cost has been, is from the medical profession; yet you would think that a lot of these automated procedures would help them, in fact, since they are supposed to be so hard-pressed for time and so busy.

For example, there is a certain test where you go to a radiologist and have an injection so he can take the proper picture; they have been doing it for years. Radiologists are medical doctors of high standards, but they came along not too long ago and said a neurologist must make the injection and so, instead of having one doctor standing there, they have got two. Surely a radiologist is capable of injecting the necessary fluid to take the picture.

This, I think, is widespread and is going to need a severe overhauling. The only way it will ever be overhauled is if we have a minister who is tough enough. This is why—although I have said this before in this committee in prior years—I am saying it again, in the hope that this minister will do something because the government is now so embarrassed by the high cost of health that they are almost forced to do something.

The great pity of it is a lot of these costs need never have been there in the first place. And when we bear in mind that we are paying the most excessive and outrageous premiums in this country and a lot of average people are having tremendous difficulty in making those premiums, it is all the more serious.

The truth of it is that a government agency has been set up as a patsy for certain particular interests in this province and the average guy is paying for it. I think it is long overdue. The minister got real tough when I just mentioned these two examples. If he wants some more I can give them to him, but he has a lot of able people there who probably know a great deal about this and can

tell him a lot more. I just hope and pray that he gets real tough.

Mr. Ben: I assume the doctors will soon be going on strike over a jurisdiction dispute as to which of them is going to give the public the needles—

Mr. Singer: If you will pardon the expression.

Mr. Ben: If you will pardon the expression, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Trotter: Later on, we will be getting into the cost of hospitals. I do not want to change—

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, just on one point—

Mr. Boyer: I was going to ask, Mr. Chairman, if I could make a suggestion to Mr. Trotter. He gave examples of the use of equipment in the hospital where a charge is made although the cost of operating that equipment was not great. How is the capital cost of that equipment met? Is it met partly through the fees that are charged in this way or how does one get the equipment into the hospital in the first place?

Mr. Trotter: The government is paying for it through capital equipment but in this case they are also using it as fees. It is used both ways, because the person operating the machine gets paid.

Mr. Boyer: Yes, but I do not know. The illustrations that you have made do not seem to add up to me.

Mr. Trotter: The person operating the machine gets paid out of the fees charged and the taxpayer is paying twice through hospitalization and through medical services. I use this as an example because it is the same way with your out-patient services. A lot of that was financed through your hospital costs and now along comes your medical services with the doctor—

Mr. Boyer: I doubt that he is paying for it twice.

Mr. Trotter: —and so the taxpayer is paying twice.

Mr. Boyer: I cannot accept that.

Mr. Ben: The Spaniards and the Portuguese lost thousands of lives looking for Eldorado in Central and South America when all the time it was up here in Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel is standing.

Mr. Singer: Just one question, if I may, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Charron said that we are investigating the idea of allowing laboratories to charge only their cost price. The minister added to that by saying, private laboratories. Whose laboratories do you mean, other than provincially operated laboratories?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All laboratories.

Mr. Singer: Who then is going to operate laboratories, other than provincially operated, if the minister has taken away the profit motive? Or do I misunderstand the minister?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. That is a good question.

Mr. Singer: What incentive is there then to operate another than government laboratory if you cannot make a profit on it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is a good question, but I do not think we can go any longer with no controls over our private laboratories insofar as licensing is concerned.

Mr. Singer: I agree with the controls, but I do not think you want to put them all out of business, do you?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I do not.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: I want to know about several matters. I want to know why the doctors, when they see a patient, and there is an insurance involved, are allowed to charge as in my area, \$5 to fill out the insurance forms. Those costs, are they not calculated in the costs, or the fee schedule when it is set up for filling out forms, or for staffing of their office, and so forth? Is it not calculated as part of the cost?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, it is not an insured service.

Mr. Martel: It certainly adds to any medical bill if the man has got to pay \$5 each time to have the insurance forms filled out with respect to the company he is working for in order that he can claim for the weekly benefits.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How often?

Mr. Martel: I have seen them three or four times on one bill over a period of 1½ months, or two months. I just cannot understand why it would not be calculated in the fee schedule right at the beginning as part of the overhead for operating losses.

Mr. Ben: Not all doctors charge that.

Mr. Martel: Not all doctors do, but there are a number.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Any comments, Dr. Charron?

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, this is not an insurance service under OHSIP.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Dr. Charron: So presumably the doctor charges for the services that he considers that he is rendering to the patient. Many doctors do not charge for this.

Mr. Martel: There are quite a few that do too, though. It really adds to the cost.

Dr. Charron: It may depend on the area of the province, Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: Well, thanks. It is like that in the Sudbury area.

Another point I want to deal with. It is just a small point, then I have two cases that I want to bring out. I can recall when I was with London Life when I was teaching, a kind of a check system, but when the doctor was paid, the bill was itemized and the patient received a copy of the itemized account. In other words, you could check that you were charged for visits on May 5, 7 and 11. They were there.

Why has not the government moved into that sort of system—sending to the patient details of the things for which they are paying the doctor?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This was discussed in some detail a little earlier, but it is something we are considering. One of the things has been the use to which we want to put our computers and our system.

Mr. Martel: The cost would not be that great, would it, because the cost is significant?

Mr. Ben: Oh, yes.

Mr. Martel: I think they do it in BC do they not?

Dr. Aldis: They send quarterly statements in BC and even they have found it very expensive. Even the mailing costs run very high. It is a very expensive way of doing it and whether it returns any value or not, I do not know.

Mr. Martel: There are some other ways of approaching this, but I will not stir up the pot by giving you them.

But I want to raise two cases, Mr. Minister, of people coming to see me this past week. One is a man by the name of Mr. Paul Landry. He is an out-patient in St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton. He lives in Sudbury. He has been there since April 4, 1970 and since June 24, 1970 he has been an out-patient. He has a kidney failure and I understand that the treatment he receives is dialysis.

Dr. Shimizu, who has been treating the man has been attempting to make arrangements to have the man treated as an out-patient in the Sudbury area for the better part of the year. His family is in Sudbury and the union pays his room and board at the YMCA in Hamilton. The government pays for one trip per month home for the man. I understand that Dr. Shimizu has made arrangements for a home treatment, or for a piece of equipment to be made available and that twice a week he has to have his system cleaned out because of the failure of the kidney.

This man has a heart condition so he cannot make this treatment by himself; there are two other patients in Sudbury who do it on their own. But after a year's time, there is still not a doctor nor a hospital who will make its services available to this man to have this treatment done twice a week. So consequently here is a man who has to live in Hamilton, with his family back in Sudbury.

Mr. Minister, this is just beyond me. It just boggles the mind that there is not a doctor in the Sudbury area who can handle that piece of equipment when other people are administering the treatment to themselves twice a week. I understand the treatment lasts 12 hours. Out of the 134 doctors in three hospitals in Sudbury, no-one will assist this man. He went to St. Joseph's.

Apparently arrangements were made but the doctor who was going to do the treatment returned to Quebec and in the Sudbury area there is not a doctor who can apply this treatment so that this man can live at home with his family. Now, just how ridiculous can this medical system be?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let me see if we can help you.

Mr. Martel: The second, Mr. Minister, is a Mr. Darrach. He had to receive treatment at Rochester for spasmodic torticollis. The only place he can receive it is at Rochester. Dr. Sturtridge, a Sudbury specialist, sent him to Mayo for the treatment. The costs were \$1,119.50. OHSIP was willing to pay \$200 roughly—\$285. This man picks up \$900 for this treatment. The only place he can receive it is in Rochester.

The Mayo Clinic said that this was a new surgical procedure performed and perfected by Dr. Svien. You will not find it listed in any insurance schedule of fees, including that of the Ontario Medical Association. The Canada Life Assurance pays 90 per cent of \$50 for the five treatments he received. Apparently he is being charged \$1,000 for the whole series, plus related costs. But this man cannot receive this treatment in Canada and he has to pay almost \$900.

How does a person get ahead of a bill like this? He is paying \$178 a year to OHSIP. He gets treatment that he can only receive in Rochester and he has to pick up a tab of \$900.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would ask you to give me the facts, because in a lot of these out-of-jurisdiction procedures the facts are not all one way.

Mr. Martel: I have got the whole file about that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Give me the file and we will have a crack at it and see if the injustice you describe is occurring.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, the one point that we cannot get cleared up—these people have written to your staff, they have written to Mayo—is that the treatment is in three phases. The first phase was five treatments in a series, and we cannot even find out, either through your staff or Mayo, whether this encompasses the two future treatments, which apparently he needs, but he is still being billed for. It is a pretty awful bill to start to face for any working man.

I will supply you with the information on both these cases. I would like to see if we could get these two straightened out.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Mr. Chairman, may I ask if the member has written to the department before?

Mr. Martel: Yes, it has been written to the department, yes.

Mr. Carruthers: And you did not get any reply?

Mr. Martel: I have not, but the people themselves have. On April 1, 1971, they had a reply from—

Mr. Carruthers: But you did not take it up with the department?

Mr. Martel: No, I just got it on the weekend. Both these cases, I just got on the weekend. I could not think of a better place to bring them up, could you?

Mr. Carruthers: Yes, I can. I would say to you, take it up with the minister.

Mr. Martel: Well, you do it; I did it this way.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Lewis, then Mr. Ben, then Mr. Singer in that order. Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Lewis: I want to come back to another part of it. I am a little trapped in a time bind, Mr. Chairman. Could I ask the minister something first about the costs of health services overall. I would like to check some figures through, if I could, about OHSIP in the period through which it has been running. As I see it, or as I have it, in 1969-1970 the total expenditure on OHSIP both claims paid, the administration, research and development was \$157.9 million, that is for the abbreviated period.

The revenue, by way of premium income and federal contribution, totals \$232.7 million, with a net gain to the province for medical care insurance in 1969-1970 of \$74.8 million. In 1970-1971, the budget indicated that the total expenditure on claims paid, administration, research and development again would be \$435.2 million; the premium income and the federal contribution equalled \$477 million, so the net gain to the province for medical care insurance was \$42.3 million.

I do not have the preliminary statistics for 1970-1971. The budget figures for 1971-1972 I have tabulated with the help of members from your department, but in which, I must admit, I did not include other payments to physicians and laboratory services. In the figures that you just handed out, are the Soo and St. Catharines included? What is that

figure—expenditures, other payments to physicians and laboratory services?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Laboratories, physicians employed—

Dr. Charron: It covers laboratories; it covers physicians; for instance, psychiatrists who are employed by The Department of Health. It covers physicians in other circumstances who are getting salaries; for instance, part of the physicians' services in our local health services where they are providing clinical service—a part of this might be included in OHSIP and so forth.

Mr. Lewis: Explain to me about the psychiatrists employed by your staff, by the department. What do you mean?

Mr. H. I. MacKillop (Medical Services Insurance Division): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Minister, members, an explanation is requested regarding these payments. I think the simplest way to explain this is that these are payments made under The Medical Care Act, where the federal government agrees to reimburse set percentages for all physicians employed by government, as the deputy minister has mentioned in the various institutes, cancer, sanatoria, and the like. In point of fact, some \$13 million is salary payments. Three million dollars approximately is for laboratory and other health services.

When the deputy was explaining this he was really saying that as far as the federal government is concerned they recognize this percentage as being reimbursed under The Medical Care Act. The figure is \$21.2 million for 1971-1972; the figure for 1970-1971 was about \$19 million.

Mr. Lewis: Yet you also include the health resources development plan in your cost of health services insurance. That is not a component of health services insurance as one normally would use it. That is the development of health personnel and paramedical personnel, as I understand it, for which there is a partial reimbursement from the federal government. What have you got it in as this time—\$12.5 million I suppose? But, if I may put it this way, it is hardly appropriate in the cost of Ontario health services insurance.

It is, of course, a legitimate government expenditure. I do not deny it for a moment, but it gives a rather distorted picture of general health insurance costs—the difference between health insurance costs including those aspects which are reimbursed by the federal government, and the costs which the

government decides to pay, whatever they may be, for the development of personnel, for buildings, for all kinds of related medical material. When you exempt those aspects from a more parallel assessment of health services insurance, the figures—again, which were acquired from your people—suggest that in 1971-1972 the total expenditure will, in fact, be not \$580 but \$492.5 million, and that the revenue, premium income and federal contribution, will be \$509.8 million. The net gain to the province for medical care insurance will be \$17.3 million.

This means in 1969-1970, you made \$74.8 million; in 1970-1971, you made \$42.3 million; in 1971-1972 you made \$17.3 million. I have not added that up, but it obviously comes to somewhere in the vicinity of \$130 million.

It raises this question. I introduced it because it raises this essential question—leaving the health resources development plan apart for the moment. We continue to have the highest premiums in the country for medical care insurance. It becomes evident that much of the federal contribution does not go to the underwriting of premiums, or does not go to premium reduction.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It all goes into this plan.

Mr. Lewis: It all goes into this plan. How—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The fundamental thing is whether you characterize, shall we say, the health resource development plan as being part of the plan. Nobody makes anything on the system. By moving it out of the plan, you simply throw it on the taxpayer in another capacity.

Mr. Lewis: That is a marginal consideration; but it is not a consideration which intrudes on other plans. When you are assessing costs of legal aid the balance sheet does not show the cost of legal education in Ontario. You bring the health resources development plan into the estimates of OHSIP—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Just a minute. This does not cover medical education, except that insofar as the plan itself is concerned. That is related to a portion. So far as capital costs are concerned what else—

Mr. Lewis: To what will the \$57 million of health resource expenditure go this year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Reid.

Dr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, of the \$57 million, \$52 million will be spent on capital development associated with health sciences centres, regional schools of nursing throughout the whole spectrum of health education, technological training and so forth. So \$52 million is for capital programmes. Of the \$52 million, I think some \$42-\$43 million is associated with projects that are already under way.

The remaining \$5 million is with the non-capital component of the health resources development plan. The non-capital component includes those programmes associated with the supply of medical and dental personnel to under-serviced areas; creation of community health facilities; moneys spent also on bursary programmes for post-diploma and post-graduate education. It is not at the undergraduate level.

It does not contradict the terms of the programme administered by The Department of University Affairs. The bursary programme, really, is to encourage people to take post-graduate training in areas of need. I mean, educational areas of need, and this programme also attempts to flow these people into work areas of need, so it also picks up the bursary programme.

There is also money within the \$5 million for the creation of demonstration and pilot projects and innovations in health care, in all aspects of health care. Finally, there are funds in the non-capital portion to encourage the development of the regional organization of health services.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In general answer, Mr. Lewis, to the point you have raised. We come back to something—I do not know if you were here when it was discussed earlier—and that is the uniting of the premiums in our new system. As you note from the figures I have distributed, the general revenue puts into this pot, on this system, some \$40 million, about eight per cent, from general revenue. You can quite see, without me making any commitments, that when we come to a single premium, this will be the gist of the policy consideration; whether it be eight per cent as it is in some other jurisdictions—Manitoba is a much higher per cent coming out of general revenue—all provinces tend to vary I think in the way they distribute the load as between premiums and general revenue.

I can assure you that when we put the two plans together this will be the gut decision as to what kind of a balance is

fairest and what kind of an impact can be expected on the public as we reach different alternatives in the balance between the mix, dealing on one end a totally insured system where premiums would carry the full load, revenue carrying the full load or a mix in between. It was government policy and a government decision to characterize what Dr. Reid has described as something which should fairly be borne by a health plan as distinct from the taxpayers in general. I think that really is the answer to your question from the policy point of view.

Mr. Lewis: Of course the health plan consists of taxpayers in general, I need hardly say to the minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: So nobody makes anything on this.

Mr. Lewis: Well, there is, however, the basic question as to whether or not premiums as such are by and large a regressive tax, and most people concede that point. They are arbitrary and fixed and at the moment the health premiums and the hospital premiums together mean for individual families who are just beyond the subsidy portion of health a very regressive and difficult tax. The comparison with Manitoba, however one looks at the mix, did demonstrate that when the shift was made to the income tax base all of those who earned less than \$11,800 a year in fact benefited from the shift—which suggests that a shift to an income tax base rather than the premium base works beneficially toward the majority of taxpayers in the province.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think Mr. MacNaughton in budget paper B of 1969 categorically laid that down as a principle.

Mr. Lewis: And he categorically laid down as a principle in budget paper A his intention to introduce a separate income tax. Little has been heard of that, so I am dubious about budget paper B. But I put it because \$130 million dollars is in effect what the federal government has contributed. I am putting it that way.

I do not think that the federal money which has been given to Ontario was ever intended to underwrite capital development of health services. I just find that very difficult to believe. I think that the federal government money that came from the federal government was always intended to support premiums, and the fact that we have made a significant profit in effect on medical care

insurance in the insurance aspect of the plan over the last three years means that we could well have reduced premiums quite significantly.

It then becomes a matter of government policy or government priority to decide whether one spends \$23 million on Ontario Place or whether one spends X million dollars on a health centre such as described by Dr. Reid. It is a policy decision of government. It is hardly fair to the people of the province, however, that they are forced to underwrite both policy decisions because you are using the federal money to subsidize capital development rather than to reduce premiums.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not rather than.

Mr. Lewis: Well both, to some marginal extent—to some extent to reduce premiums, to some significant extent to underwrite capital. But think of what it might have meant to the premium level in the province had the 130 additional millions of dollars been used to reduce premiums over the last two years, which we apparently could have done.

That might have imposed different social priorities for the government, which may have been a good thing for the government. It is almost too easy to have this federal money coming in and maintain the premiums at the level they now are. It, in effect, gives the Treasurer money which was intended for one thing and which they then divert to a secondary use. That seems to me to be very useful for the Tory government. It is not as helpful to the people who pay premiums in the province, and I do not know what you see the mix as being or whether you have thought about it.

You ventured an opinion as a cabinet minister. You ventured an opinion on a number of subjects—and most of us applaud you for those opinions because of the candour with which you have asserted them—but on this I would be interested to know whether the minister has an opinion. I want to deal with some of his other exercises in candour later on. But whether he has an opinion as to where the mix will come, whether he has a personal view or a view which he intends to present to Treasury or to his colleagues, I would be interested to know.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have expressed my bias a number of times and that is one that is consistent with Mr. MacNaughton's acceptance of the fact that the premium system is more regressive, and you have described it, as more regressive than the

general revenue system. The stumbling block of course is as to whether or not our income tax system is too blunt an instrument, or too archaic a mirror of social needs to be used despite the fact that it is less regressive.

So my bias—and I have stated it a number of times—has been consistent with John White's select committee on taxation and consistent with Mr. MacNaughton's policy paper, and that is that we recognize the regressivity and we will press as far as we can go to shift away from that.

Mr. Lewis: Right. Well you will concede, leaving out the Health Resources Development Plan, that not a penny in Ontario now comes from general revenue. That everything comes from premiums and from the federal contribution. That covers the entire plan with a profit.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are getting into a question of semantics and interpretation, because the federal government obviously interprets our form of assessment as within The Medical Care Act of Canada. The other thing is—and this is really in parenthesis—I ponder as a politician, and you might as a politician too, whether or not we could protect the very valuable investment in our long-term building of personnel and health resources outside the plan as well as in it.

And here I am thinking psychologically of how tempting it would be to be very popular by dropping premiums at the expense of investment in the long-term system which is the guts, really, of the whole system. The man in the street, you or I, or some of us anyway, tend not to be as enthusiastic about the long-term investment as we are about saving today, but I say, that is all in parenthesis because this will be a government position to be made as a whole government.

Mr. Lewis: I would not have thought the two were mutually exclusive, but it might in fact be possible to divulge—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly.

Mr. Lewis: —and to link what you do in the capital area with what you do in terms of health insurance.

Talking about health insurance for a moment, going just a little further, Mr. Minister, if I recall correctly, you indicated in one of the statements in the Legislature, that you would indicate to the Ontario Medical Association certain ground rules for their application of billing outside the plan, and

that you would let them know and let the public know, in a more specific way, how it would work within the plan and outside the plan. Have you done anything further on that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, I have drafted, I do not know whether I have sent, a letter of explanation relating to our assessment of these peculiar situations, or situations where we are going to have to be quite properly flexible.

Would you like the situations underlined? I am not professionally equipped to pick those particular circumstances.

Mr. Lewis: As I understand it, your initial statement in the House indicated it would be subject to further definition as you sorted out what this all meant.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: You have now drafted all that for the OMA?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The OMA itself? Yes.

Mr. Lewis: Would it be possible for us to have the outlines of the proposition that you are putting to them—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: —by way of definition?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: Is that available now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let me have a look at it. I have been working on it and I do not know whether it is—

Mr. Lewis: Could we adjourn at this point? It might be fair to the minister.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, we will adjourn until eight o'clock, and Mr. Lewis will finish. Mr. Ben and then Mr. Singer.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, May 25, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

**THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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1971**



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1971

The committee resumed at 8:05 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (continued)

Mr. Chairman: There is a quorum here. Mr. Ben is next in line.

On vote 704.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Thank you. Mr. Minister, have you any aversion to paying attention? Thank you.

An hon. member: That is not nice.

Mr. Ben: No, it is not. He is a nice guy. I like his shirt.

Mr. Minister, we were discussing computers and I note under vote 705 that in the 1970-1971 estimates we voted \$6,564,000 for data processing, when actual expenditures were \$4,925,793.

In these estimates you are asking for \$7 million which is an increase of 40 per cent over your actual expenditure for the fiscal year 1969-1970. In considering the breakdown of these estimates on page 117, it would appear that \$3,813,000 is spent for salaries and wages. Of course, we do not have before us public accounts for the fiscal year 1969-1970 so we do not know how much actually went towards salaries and wages in that particular fiscal year, but you are allocating \$2,536,400 towards services. Now under the new system there is an explanatory note in the standard accounts classification.

Services includes charges for information services such as advertising provided by professional agencies; advertising placed directly with the media; and services for the production of departmental publications and films.

It seems to me that this is an extraordinarily large expenditure for what may be summed up as being PR or public relations.

Now, inasmuch as the data processing would not be involved in going out to the public market and soliciting either accounts

or anything of that nature, this amount is indeed extraordinary. Why should you be spending \$2,536,400, or why should you be proposing to spend that amount for public relations and/or advertising? Are you going to be renting out your computer?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): I will not speculate any more than you would. Dr. Charron who has got the best—

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister of Health): I think probably Mr. Scott has—

Mr. Ben: He is the best alibi man?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have had about the same figure for three years now and so it is not—

Mr. Ben: With all due respect to you, it is an increase of \$2 million over your 1969-1970 expenditures; that is a 40 per cent increase.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Wait a minute. No, \$200,000. Less than \$200,000.

Mr. Ben: I do not know.

Dr. Charron: The actual figure was \$2,620,000 for 1970-1971—

Mr. Ben: It was \$2 million for 1970-1971?

Dr. Charron: That is right.

Mr. Ben: All right. Fine. What are you going to be spending that on?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is less this year.

Dr. Charron: It is \$2,536,000 this year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It has dropped by \$100,000.

Mr. Ben: What did you do with it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The drop?

Mr. Ben: No. What did you do with the money last year? Where did you advertise? Why did you advertise? What did you advertise?

Mr. D. G. Scott (Director of Operations): Mr. Chairman, part of this was due to the heavy expenditure for increased printing. Due to a large increase in the volume of the claims processed during the year—

Mr. Ben: What process?

Mr. Scott: Claims process! The volume of claims has risen substantially and there is a larger expenditure to be provided for during the next year for stationery and printing and some equipment.

Mr. Ben: Forgive me, Mr. Chairman, but may I apologize to the hon. gentleman who has just spoken and ask his name?

Dr. Charron: Mr. Scott.

Mr. Ben: Through you, Mr. Chairman, to Mr. Scott I do not see where mailing and printing and the rest come into this particular expenditure. The caption is data processing and I am referring to the proposed expenditure of \$2,536,400 for services. Under the new system which has been incorporated in the new accounting system—I forget the name it has; uniform accounting system—the definition of services is to be found in the explanatory notes. It includes:

Charges for information services such as advertising provided by professional agencies; advertising placed directly with the media; and services for the production of departmental publications and films. Also included are charges for the rental and purchase, repairs and maintenance of machinery and equipment, buildings land and engineering structure—

I am sorry. We are getting now to where you are right, and I had better read the next part before somebody brings it to my attention—there is always some sneaky guy in the crowd.

Includes charges for data processing, services, printing and duplicating services. Also included in this amount are insurance premiums and other miscellaneous charges for special services.

What is all this printing that you have to do here, Mr. Scott, through you, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Scott: I did not hear your question; I am sorry.

Mr. Ben: What is all this printing that involves so much money?

Mr. Scott: That is by no means all printing, but the note that I have got here

about the printing is merely to emphasize the fact that our claims volume, for instance, has increased, or will increase to about 120,000 claims a day from a previous figure of about 75,000. There is a large increase in purchase costs for printing and stationery to service the process. The main item in the expenses you have already detected is the computer rental.

Mr. Ben: You do not own the computer, through you, Mr. Chairman, to the minister or Mr. Scott?

Mr. Scott: No.

Mr. Ben: You rent the computer. Which brings me to a point I raised last year when I brought to the attention of the committee, the point raised by Doctor Jean Pigeon from Manitoulin Island, who received on one day 13 envelopes, each bearing the same date, each from the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, each containing a cheque, I think it was for \$4.65, and each having affixed thereto a six-cent stamp. I query the waste of money.

I can multiply, and multiplying 13 by six cents amount to 78 cents, so that there was a wastage of 72 cents. When one considers how this must be multiplied by the number of doctors practising in Ontario, it could amount to quite a bit. I ask, why cannot one cheque be sent to these doctors once a month, or bi-monthly, for the amount that they would be entitled to rather than sending a series of individual cheques for each service rendered and charging all that postage, the printing—

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): They only get one.

Mr. Ben: Well, I presented 13 envelopes to this House—

Mr. Shulman: Not most of them.

Mr. Ben: Not most of them. I said it was from the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Are you now processing all of these accounts so that a doctor receives but one cheque a month for the total amount?

Mr. Scott: Mr. Chairman, the answer to the question is yes. But when we entered into the arrangement with the designated agents, they had a diversity of systems and the arrangement we had to make with them in order to avoid any interruptions was that they continue with the systems that they then had. This meant that in some cases

there was a multiplicity of cheques issued, but that situation has been corrected and there is one cheque per doctor being issued now periodically.

Mr. Ben: I am happy to hear that that is settled.

Mr. Shulman: No, that is not right. Not as of today; not as of this morning when I got three cheques from one company.

Mr. Scott: Is it possible that some companies may not have entirely converted but they are in process.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, if I may for a while, I will redirect my questions through you to Dr. Reid. We were discussing the availability of doctors, and Dr. Reid gave us the figures showing how many patients were serviced by a doctor in a northern area, and in different areas in southern Ontario. It varied from about one doctor for close to 1,800 people in northern Ontario, to one doctor to less than 600 people in the county of York, and the statement was advanced—I rather feel it was by the minister than by the doctor—that we have a sufficient number of medical practitioners in the Province of Ontario, but it is just bad distribution.

No one was asked at the time what was considered to be the optimum number of physicians for the province, that is, what would be the proper ratio, especially when one considers the change in the status of physicians in the last, say, 20 years? For example, in 1950, using American figures—and perhaps somebody here has comparable Canadian figures—62 per cent of the doctors were in private practice. This dropped to 57 per cent in 1955, 43 per cent in 1960, and to 39 per cent in 1966, and if one projects the graph, in 1970 one would expect there were only 35 per cent of the doctors in private practice.

Insofar as specialists are concerned, in 1960 only six per cent of the doctors were medical specialists, as against 10 per cent in 1960, and again projecting the graph, it would be about 12 per cent at the present time. Surgeons, in 1950—nine per cent were specializing as surgeons. This increased to 15 per cent in 1966. A big jump was to be found in those who are practising psychiatry and neurology, and there the increase over these 16 years was in the neighbourhood of 300 per cent. I should state that the increase in what they call the others—I do not know who they are, probably anaesthetists, and people like that—

was also considerable, but there was a smaller number to begin with.

But I ask, how can you say we have enough doctors in the province except that they are poorly distributed, when one has to take into consideration also what will be the optimum number of surgeons in relation to general practitioners, what would be the optimum number of medical specialists in relation to surgeons and general practitioners, what would be the optimum number of psychiatrists, and so on? Dr. Chute—at the time that Mr. Roberts, then the Premier of this province, opened the new medical school—said that even though they were going to be increasing their output of doctors by 50—in other words they were going from 200 to 250 per annum—there was still need for another medical school. Perhaps Dr. Reid will say that McMaster is the answer to this particular problem. But I ask you in view of what I have just said, how can anybody tell us that we have enough doctors in Ontario but they are simply poorly distributed? What, in the estimation of Dr. Reid, would be the optimum number, that is, how many doctors there should be for every, say, 500, 600 or 700 people?

Dr. G. W. Reid (Research and Planning): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Minister, Mr. Ben poses many questions and there is no simple set of answers. I do not really know that anybody has quite said that Ontario is all that well-off for doctors. I think that what has been said is that perhaps the continuing plea of shortage relates more to distribution perhaps, and to utilization rather than to total numbers. I think what has been said is that the ratio of doctors to population in Ontario compares very well with other comparable jurisdictions.

I think some of the other matters that Mr. Ben has referred to, about the distribution between a general practitioner and a specialist is a very valid point. The ratio in Ontario today is roughly 50-50—50 per cent primary care or general practitioners, and the other 50 per cent are in the specialties. I think that no jurisdiction I am aware of has been able to say in precise terms that that jurisdiction considers that the optimum number of physicians to population is X.

I think it is recognized that there is a problem here and the problem is to gain the maximum productivity out of the available manpower resource. This refers to the conservation of manpower, and there is evidence, very good evidence to point up that physicians are deployed in certain fashions and

group practices. If they are supported by allied health personnel then these physicians can give a very high quality of service more easily, the productivity of the physician can be increased by a noticeable amount.

Mr. Ben: The productivity of a physician could be increased by a notable amount? With all due respect to the profession, they are now averaging about 14 or 15 hours a day, now when are you going to get in the extra work?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Reid did not talk about hours of work, he talked about productivity.

Mr. Ben: Productivity, all right. But let us admit one thing, that even though in the county of York we have one doctor for 500 and some persons—less than 600—the most popular pastime in this area is still waiting in a doctor's waiting room. Now what must be the situation up north, where you have one doctor for 1,800 people? They must all be Rip van Winkles waiting in those waiting rooms.

Mr. G. W. Innes (Oxford): They must be healthy people.

Mr. Ben: They would have to be healthy people so they do not require as much service. That must be the answer up there.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): They get better or die waiting for the doctor.

Mr. Ben: But this is what bothers me, Dr. Reid, through you, Mr. Chairman. The doctor read off figures—I thought we might see a copy of those, Mr. Chairman—that in the county of York there were less than 600 patients per doctor. In northern Ontario, the area of Mr. Martel we had—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is population. It is not the same thing.

Mr. Ben: —one doctor for every 600 people of population.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not the same as patients.

Mr. Ben: All right, I stand corrected, nevertheless, I will accept your correction, because it makes this figure more appalling. It makes it more appalling.

In northern Ontario we have one doctor for every 1,780, or something of that nature, population, close to 1,800. Now, if in southern Ontario in Toronto, where there is one

doctor for every 600 population, the most popular pastime is still waiting in doctors' waiting rooms and reading magazines, three, five, six, eight months old, what must be the situation up north? And do not tell me that up north they have new magazines.

Dr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Minister, very briefly, you must realize that you cannot easily draw a direct comparison between the county of York and Algoma or some of the other county districts I referred to this afternoon. You must realize, in the county of York and Metropolitan Toronto, this is a regional centre for many medical affairs and hospital affairs. You must realize also, in Toronto of course, that there are many regional centres for cancer and other things where they employ physicians. You must realize also that there are many teachers of medicine in this city and I am sure, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, that the hon. member for Humber would also recognize that there is a proportion of medical bureaucrats also, and they are not probably in Algoma, so you cannot—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Shame, shame!

Mr. Ben: Well, Mr. Chairman, will the doctor give the committee some indication of what the ratio would be in a comparable jurisdiction, let us say, for example, Sweden, which has a population akin to ours? Do you have the figures for that? Or do you have the figures for the State of New York on a ratio basis?

Dr. Reid: The figures we have in Sweden are from a report which is two or three years old. The figure for Sweden is one doctor to 910 of population. The comparable Ontario figure at that time was one to 790, I think.

Mr. Ben: When was it 790?

Dr. Reid: At the same time that the Swedish figure was 910.

Mr. Ben: If you are taking the average for Ontario as one for 790, I would consider the complaints of northern Ontario to be completely justified, because their ratio is half that, or twice that, depending on its point of view, or of the average, and only one-third of that in southern Ontario.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Are you comparing it to northern Sweden or southern Sweden?

Mr. Ben: I am comparing northern Ontario. The average for Ontario at that time as you know was one per 790. Northern Ontario has

one for 1,780, or something like that. I can understand it is big, mind you. On the other hand, I have to compliment the government in subsidizing doctors and offering them a guaranteed income if they go and establish themselves up there, but the situation is still deplorable and one can feel nothing but sympathy with the complaints of the people of northern Ontario, who have been saying in the past that they have been neglected or feel like poor cousins getting hand-me-downs.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): What would be the reason, Mr. Chairman, would the hon. member like to go up north? Would he like to live up there? What is the reason?

Mr. Ben: They cannot eat the fish anymore when we go fishing.

Mr. Morningstar: Is that the reason?

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Speak for yourself.

Mr. Ben: Well there should be nothing touching them up there.

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished?

Mr. Ben: Could I have an answer?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well we have to compare it with Norway and Sweden.

Mr. Ben: How many people live in Norway and Sweden?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We can get the figures.

Mr. Ben: You can? You can tell us how many Laplanders there are and how many feldshers there were too? In 1960 a lot of them were worse off than we were.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Ben: We do not know whether the people of Norway and Sweden have Inco to contend with and have their lungs polluted to the degree that the people in Northern Ontario have.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The Swedes are a lot worse off than we are.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): In what respect?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In the number of doctors available for population.

Mr. Martel: We did not get those figures yet.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, we just gave them to you.

Mr. Ben: He did. Yes, about one to 900 in Sweden. On the other hand I would suggest that Sweden has less pollution and a much healthier outlook towards life. They are more inclined to exercise more. To sunbathe and enjoy the wilds, do more ski-ing, hunting and fishing, all those healthy pastimes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Suicides are higher.

Mr. Ben: Oh yes, you are thinking of France.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Finland is higher in lung cancer.

Mr. Ben: I think what it must be is that people feel so upset that the rest of the world cannot share their paradise that they just commit suicide. I might just say that Sweden does not have the highest rate of suicide. A lot of people say that, but it is not true.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Singer, the member for Downsview.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, I am worried about the incidence of the new input of doctors. I sent a file that I had to the minister recently. I am not sure if it is his responsibility or the responsibility of his colleague the Minister of University Affairs. But the particular gentleman who was enquiring of me if he was being prejudiced against because he had been a poor student, he only had about an 85 per cent average and he had been led on by a series of leaders of the medical school into taking more and more courses and eventually as he qualified, as I read his record, very highly he was eventually told that there was no room for him in the medical school.

I know of another gentleman who has talked to me—I have not submitted the record to the minister—who had a record of 85 per cent, he had a BA of 85 per cent and he applied to McMaster University for admission and he was turned down, and apparently the basis was that you need an 87 per cent in your average for admission to medical school at McMaster University.

Mr. Innes: At that particular school?

Mr. Singer: No, in this particular year. What puzzles me, Mr. Chairman—as we listened earlier this afternoon to the comparative figures and the fact that we have

a reasonably high ratio, the comparative sloughing off of our ratio of doctor per head of population notwithstanding that they are now distributed—is the extent to which we are not encouraging our brighter young people to become doctors. Now it would seem to me, I am some years removed from having qualified academically to go to university to enter Osgoode Hall and so on—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Forty-nine, was it not?

Mr. Singer: Yes. A percentage of 85 or 87 in a graduate course, I would have thought in my day certainly, could be outstanding and when a young person in our society is able to achieve that standard to find that the doors are closed and that there is no room at the inn for admission to medical school makes me wonder very seriously.

Then, let me add to that, an expression of one of your officials that we have in our quota of doctors many admissions—I do not know how many—from the United Kingdom, from Africa, from all over the world, but other people. One wonders at the kind of standard of qualification we are expecting of our young people. So substantially, Mr. Minister, I direct the question to you, what kind of ability do we have in our medical schools to absorb our bright students?

I am not saying that we take everybody with a 50 per cent average, but when we get up as high as 87 per cent at McMaster University as apparently is the case today, do we then continue to admit doctors from other jurisdictions? Are we not having any pride in our own youngsters who have attained this high equivalent of qualification? Should we not lean over backwards? I am not going to assert at great length the file the minister has in his possession, but he has seen it and he has referred it I understand to his colleague the Minister of University Affairs, but should we not be very, very concerned about these bright young people in our own society who would appear to me—and I am a layman so far as medical qualifications are concerned—to be eminently qualified?

This young man had a graduate degree in chemistry. The other young man whom I talked about—and I have not placed the information before the minister—was lecturing to students in medical courses, and he was told he cannot get into medical school. Now to what extent do we discriminate against our very bright students? If they are not plucked

out of the first and second year of university, do we then say they are no good?

As I understand it, 75 per cent of our students who are eligible to be admitted to medical schools come out of first and second year and they gather 25 per cent from hither and yon, 25 per cent of BAs, MAs, PhDs, and in addition people from other jurisdictions.

Mr. Shulman: Yes.

Mr. Singer: Surely we have a great clamouring at the door from our own intelligent, well-educated Ontario students who have very, very high qualifications who are, in fact, being turned back? I would like to know the extent of co-operation between this minister and his colleague the Minister of University Affairs, because I find this completely abhorrent.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The standards of entry are not fixed arbitrarily to the extent that they relate to scholastic performance alone, they are basically a yardstick used to separate out from those applying, those whom we have room to train.

Mr. Ben: That is not so, Mr. Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are developing—and I hope we can do it much more quickly—the number of people we can physically put through our system, and I think that we can do a lot in this field. But we would have no places to train the number of students we could get if we dropped that to, what, 75 per cent; we would have them coming out our ears, would we not? McMaster is a new school; it has how many places coming?

Dr. Reid: Sixty-four.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How many applications would they have? Hundreds and hundreds?

Dr. Reid: A very large number.

Mr. Singer: This is very interesting.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is not a good thing.

Mr. Singer: No, no, this is very fine. But Dr. Reid tells us that we have admitted eminent gentlemen—and I do not denigrate their ability one iota—

An hon. member: We are dealing with two separate things.

Mr. Singer: —from India, Pakistan and wherever they may come from to be admitted to our medical profession, but we recognize that we have bright young Ontario-educated young men and women who anxiously and eagerly seek admission to our medical school. Do we push those people aside in favour of doctors from these underprivileged countries which really need their own doctors, when we have our own people who are here, available and eager but who cannot get admitted? I would think it is a very sad thing when we have—and hopefully the day of discrimination on race, colour and creed is gone; I accept that. This happened in Ontario 10 years ago, 15 years ago, 20 years ago, but hopefully this day—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Not so long ago.

Mr. Singer: —is gone forever. But do we now lean over backward and say, "If you come from a foreign country, you have a preference over and above our students with an 85 degree per cent average"? This apparently is what is happening.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, it is not what is happening.

Mr. Singer: Well, it is. I produced one case to you, and I have one more. There is no reason—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If there were enough places to train these people, both of your cases presumably would have been accepted for training. Our system is not capable of handling within Ontario an indefinite number of students, whether it be at 75 per cent, 80 per cent or 85 per cent.

Mr. Singer: Be that as it may, then why do we allow foreign students—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not foreign students, foreign doctors.

Mr. Singer: Why do we allow foreign qualified doctors to come in, in replacement for these young people, who are our best and most brilliant young people, who are anxious and eager to have this education and for whom, you say, there is no room?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are not replacements by any means.

Mr. Singer: They are.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are immigrants who come in here, and if they are qualified because there is no discrimination,

we allow them to practise their professions, whether they be doctors, as we would anyone else.

Mr. Ben: Practising—he is trying to wriggle out.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are dealing with two different things—

Mr. Ben: You are dealing with two different things.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: One is discrimination against immigrants and we do not have it. Therefore, if they are qualified doctors, they are entitled to practise here. Where you can be critical, and this is—

Mr. Singer: I am being critical.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Where you can be critical does not relate to whether or not we discriminate against people from other countries. Where you can be critical is that our system is not producing the number of doctors that it should.

An hon. member: That is correct.

Mr. Singer: All right. I am critical in two senses, Mr. Minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but that has nothing to do with a qualified doctor coming from any other part of the world.

Mr. Singer: All right. I would say that when we have produced, at substantial public expense, a bright student who can get an average, say, of 85 per cent—when he is told that, "We are sorry. We have no room for you in our medical school, and in the foreseeable future there is no hope that you can be a doctor in the Province of Ontario," but where we then admit a Pakistani, an Indian, an Israeli or I do not care where he comes from, then we are discriminating in the reverse and I think this is criminal. Because we have invested many thousands of dollars in the education of our bright young Ontario people, who you are not letting into medical school, and I think this is criminal.

Mr. Shulman: It is incredible. That is terrible. Those people will go back. Can we not give something to these backward countries?

Mr. Singer: Can we not give something to our bright young Ontario people?

Mr. Shulman: Is there not room for six people out of those 64 to come from other countries and be given something from this province?

Mr. Singer: All right. The member for High Park makes a very valid point, and I say that if the preference has to lie between someone from a backward country and someone we have produced out of our educational system, who has reached the high academic standard of achieving 85 per cent—if we turn him away and say, “Notwithstanding your desire and your ability, which was proven through our education system, we have no room for you,” then I think there is something very, very wrong.

I would agree with the hon. member for High Park that, insofar as we are able, comes in second place our consideration for people from other countries; I would not dismiss that. But I say that when we turn back our brightest people, in whom we have invested many thousands of dollars of your money and my money to bring them to this point, and we say there is no room for them at medical school, then there is something very seriously wrong.

Mr. Shulman: But one is not related to the other.

Mr. Singer: They are related. They are very infinitely related.

Mr. Shulman: Most of the students in medical school are from Ontario; a sprinkling is coming from outside.

Mr. Lewis: Ask him how many Pakistani and Indian doctors have been allowed to practise in this last five years and you will see the non-discriminatory factors of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Mr. Singer: I say it is a very serious tragedy when we have people who are produced through high school and through university—through our first and second years of university and through our BA degrees—when they achieve these very high marks, who have set their targets on becoming medical doctors, when we say suddenly the percentage is no longer 80 per cent, it is 85 or 87 per cent and they cannot get in. Then I say there is something very seriously wrong.

Let me go back now to the premise I was making originally. The doctor was saying earlier that we have a higher percentage, or as high a percentage as is known in the western world. Surely there should be some desire, to expand our ability to provide doctors, because there are deprived areas and obviously we have very able students.

Somewhere along the line I would like to know what this department, and/or The

Department of University Affairs, is doing to be able to grab these young people—and I am not arguing for any particular group—to grab these young people, by the standards that are presently available, be it 80, 85, 87 per cent—80 per cent is awfully high—and say, “You are going to be a good doctor. Let us provide additional training.”

Are you able to provide and should you not be able to provide this kind of training and to put these people into medical school, to send them into northern Ontario or wherever we are short? Surely this has to be your objective.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the statistical answer I can give to that is that under present planning in the next four years we will move from the production of 390 doctors a year to 550 in four years’ time. If some of the thoughts that we have—the university committee, myself, the department—proceed; in other words, in a way if we do not blow our money on a new medical school, in four years we could raise the graduating or qualified doctor level to 700 doctors.

So the answer is yes. You touched on a point where you can criticize, but yes, whether we hit 550 under our present system or 700, the impact is going to be felt very soon. I do not know what other answer I can give.

Mr. Singer: All right! I ask a very substantial question now: In light of the statistics that you gave us earlier, how many doctors per thousand should we continue to have in the foreseeable future in the Province of Ontario? How many doctors do your advisers tell you are the reasonable median that we should continue to have? And are you approaching that through the process of our own medical schools?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I can see we are going to have a continuing problem in the Province of Ontario, that if we are producing 700 in 1975, do they all stay in Metropolitan Toronto?

Mr. Singer: No, no, leave that apart; let us not muddy the waters with whether they stay in Toronto.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, that is how the waters run in this province.

Mr. Singer: No. Dr. Reid said that we are doing very well at 771 per 1,000—per 10,000, whatever it was. Whatever his figure was, he thought we were doing very well. Are we

able to maintain that figure reasonably through our own young people or do we need a constant infusion of foreign-trained doctors?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, we do not, and the infusion of foreign-trained doctors is expected to drop steadily over the years ahead.

Mr. Singer: All right!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I would love to see us hit the figure I gave you. It would apply to the point that you are making so forcefully, and that is that we should let more of our own bright young kids into the stream, but if we move from 390 to 700 in the next four years the impact of that is going to be felt, because our population will not double in that period of time. The question, of course, will still be distribution and use.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: I would not disagree with the point made by the hon. member for High Park, that within our scheme we should—if I could have your attention?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, over a period of years, but this year are we expecting it to be anything like that? Dr. Reid can give these figures.

Mr. Singer: My substantial point is that I would not substantially disagree with the point made by the hon. member for High Park. Not that we should be chauvinistic and say we have no room for people from other countries, but when we are preferring people from other countries—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is not so.

Mr. Singer: Well, we are today.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No.

Mr. Singer: Yes, we are. The file that I gave you the other day indicated that a very brilliant young man, whose average is in the very high 80's, was told there is no room for him in medical school because his average is not high enough. The second one that I have—and if you want I will produce it for you—is that a second young man with an average of 85 per cent, who has lectured to doctors in the field of chemistry, has been told that he cannot be admitted because his average is not 87 per cent. Both have been told they cannot get into medical school.

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): It is not that he cannot get into medical school because some foreign person is coming in to take his place.

Mr. Singer: Well, it must be. If we need more doctors—

Mr. Dymond: There is a minimum number—

Mr. Singer:—and we refuse people in as high a bracket as this, Mr. Chairman, then I think there is something very wrong. I will buy the argument put forward by the member for High Park to the extent that we have a public duty to assist people from other jurisdictions who want to be elevated in their general medical knowledge, provided that they are going to go back to their country and disseminate the knowledge we have.

We have a public duty to do that. But I say when we spend many thousands of dollars on individual students and then tell them that the doors are closed to our medical schools, there is something very wrong. I want to know what you are going to do for these brilliant students who are not being able to be admitted to our medical schools.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As I said—

Mr. Shulman: Having had some experience with medical schools, I must point out if you took out every foreign doctor or student out of the classes you are not going to lower the average from 87 to more than 86½. It is not going to make any difference; your brilliant students still are not going to get in because there are not enough places. The number of places taken by the foreign doctors do not make any real difference.

Mr. Ben: Oh, come on!

Mr. Singer: All right, then let me accept that argument absolutely. What are you going to do to get our most brilliant young students into medical school?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are going to almost double, in the next four years, our capacity to produce—

Mr. Ben: On a point of order, Mr. Dymond and Mr. Shulman, doctors I draw to your attention, are making some rather asinine statements in this House. Dr. Chute, the dean of medicine at the University of Toronto, pointed out—first of all, the hon. member for Downsview was talking about an arbitrary system—Dr. Chute says he wants to introduce the interview system to replace the present arbitrary method of selecting applicants wholly on the basis of academic standing.

Mr. Lewis: That is not a point of order.

Mr. Ben: I will tell you what the man said. All right. He said the U of T now restricts its out-of-province enrolment to 10 per cent, other provinces have similar restrictions and provincial students aid programmes are not transferable from province to province. And then he goes on to say:

These are just some of the reasons contributing to the fact that few of the 800 highly-qualified people refused admission this year will ever receive training as doctors.

This is what Dr. Chute said. All right, that is 10 per cent and he may say it is a small number, but what the hon. member has been saying is this, that people who have an extremely high academic rating—and 85 or 86 per cent is extremely high when you consider that 75 per cent is first class honours—a lot of them are being refused admission to our medical schools because—

Mr. Ferrier: You got your point across.

Mr. Ben: Fine, I just want to finish the point. For Mr. Shulman to say it is only going to lower the grade by 0.5 per cent is sheer nonsense because the people who come out of the province do not necessarily have to meet that standard. Not only that, if he went back from whence he came, we would not mind.

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished?

Mr. Singer: Not quite. I would like to hear the answer from the minister.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The answer is what I suggested to you; that current plans will raise our rate of production of our own indigenous doctors from 390 in 1971 to 550 in 1975, which is—

Mr. Ben: That is less than Quebec.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is contemplated by my officials that if we plan ourselves right in this province—you know, if we do the job in the way we are capable of doing it, which will include some money but not monstrous amounts of money—we can actually in that four-year period go from 390 to 700. Now, to me, that is where your criticism is valid and this is the kind of target we must aim at, but to link it in with the question of whether we tell a qualified immigrant that he cannot practise because he comes to Ontario as a doctor—

Mr. Ben: He did not say that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, he did, he said that you can immigrate here as long as you are not a doctor.

Mr. Singer: Could I ask the minister, then, in relation to the figures that he quoted, the extent to which his department contemplates that we will maintain this favourable ratio? In the event that his figures are correct, which I question, will these figures in fact correlate to the projected increase of people like The Department of Municipal Affairs or whoever else in this government projects increased population, insofar as maintaining the doctor-patient ratio is concerned?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The 550 figure would more than maintain the relationship between doctors and population but, you know, this becomes very large because in that four-year period—

Mr. Singer: Of course, it becomes very large.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will tell you one thing that is not talked about here and that is utilization of our medical services, which brings us back to our discussion of this afternoon. These figures will look crazy, they will mean nothing, unless we come to grips with the use we make of our medical system. We could all spend every day, you know, talking to doctors.

Mr. Singer: That is very fine, but let us place that in ratio to what Dr. Reid said. What is the optimum figure? Is the 771 figure he said an optimum figure or should it be better or should it be worse? Can we fall below that or should we be higher?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It depends how we use them, I would think.

Mr. Singer: All right. We depend on you because you have all the resources to tell us what the optimum figure is. How many doctors would the official opinion of The Department of Health indicate we should have per thousand of population?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Reid.

Dr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, the planning figure we are working on now, taking the variables of increased indigenous output, the probable trends of immigration, we are working toward the target figure of 1 to 675.

Mr. Singer: One to 675, all right. Now, then, in relation to the one to 675, which

is the optimum figure, is the minister prepared to say that the projections, the future projections, of the capacity of our medical schools is going to cope with that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, I think it is planned to, is it not?

Mr. Singer: What?

Dr. Reid: Yes, it is forecast that with the increased indigenous output, with a forecast slowing down of the currently high immigration figures, we will achieve this one to 675 figure.

Mr. Singer: All right. Now then accepting that, I will question that a little later, surely there is a responsibility upon The Department of Health of the Province of Ontario, which has a very substantial interrelationship with the future progress of our medical schools in Toronto and Western and McMaster and wherever else they may exist, to indicate to the students that unless they have a percentage of 85, or 87 or 90, that there is no room for them at medical school, because you are disappointing a very substantial amount of the cream of our intellectual crop. I think this is criminal, because when there are encouragements given to young people who have a particular intellectual bent, which has produced an average of 80 per cent and above, and who suddenly arrive at the zero hour when they are told with 85 per cent that there is no room for them at medical school, then I suggest you are doing a great deal to discourage our most brilliant young minds in the Province of Ontario.

I suggest that you have a very real responsibility to tell our people who are oriented to a future medical career that unless they are in the unusual top 13 percent, because that is what you are getting down to, that they just have not got a hope in heck of ever getting to be doctors. I think when they recognize—and I accept the point made by the hon. member for High Park (Mr. Shulman), that we have a responsibility to provide some educational opportunities to foreign doctors. But we have a first responsibility to accept the brilliance of our own young people. If you are going to say that there is a cutoff point today, in 1971, at 87 per cent, then you tell all the rest of the people who can never aspire to 87 per cent, there is no point in your wasting your time in going through one or two or four years.

The one young gentleman that I have more particularly in mind—I have not yet presented the facts to the minister, but I will shortly—was a brilliant chemical student to the point that he has been charged to lecture to medical students in chemical science, and achieved one of the highest BAs ever achieved in this field. He was told, “We are sorry, your percentage was only 85 and you cannot get into medical school because it is 87 per cent.” I think this is just criminal, and I think that we have to look to ourselves without denigrating at all our responsibility to foreign people. Now granted we have. Let us look at the type of standings from the Indians and the Israelis and whoever else you have whom you want to bring in and, say, here are one, two, three, five years. Go back to your country and spread our great Ontario and Canadian knowledge. We surely have a responsibility to our own bright young people, and I say you are not discharging it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Innes.

Mr. Innes: Did the member for Downsview get an answer?

Mr. Singer: I have cases. The minister has one and I am going to provide him with the second one.

Mr. Lewis: I thought you might have—

Mr. Singer: No, I have got two. No, the one the minister has in his possession. I am not going to read it at great length—the minister has read it. The other one is even more colourful.

Mr. Innes: Mr. Chairman, this afternoon we were speaking of some of the abuses that were taking place in OHSIP and some of the related programmes and I was concerned about the duplication in some of the services. On the weekend I was approached by an individual who told me that he had been at a chiropractor and had engaged the services there but the services amounted to completely x-raying the individual, the patient. After many visits—I do not know how many—it ended up that he did not get any treatment, so to speak, so he was advised that he should go to a medical doctor. So he went to a medical doctor and the medical doctor said the first thing he had to do is to go to a radiologist and be x-rayed and go through the same procedure. But in the intervening time, this patient paid the 10 per cent to the chiropractor which amounted to a total bill of around \$200. So what I want to ask the

minister is why cannot the x-rays as taken by the chiropractor or by the radiologist as such go with the patient?

It appears to me that this particular patient could have gone to three or four different doctors or three or four different chiropractors and still run up a tremendous bill and OHSIP would have paid it, no question. So this has concerned the patient and it concerned me. He said as a taxpayer this really bothers him. How do you overcome this?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Part of it is, as I understand it, that you are not paying just for the films.

Mr. Innes: I beg your pardon?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You are not paying just for the films raw, you are paying for somebody's interpretation of what they mean. Now from an administrative point of view who can quarrel with the fact that a picture may be taken? Apart from that, they may not be taken the way the person wants to view the particular problem area. Built into your cost, and it is an unknown figure to me, would be the interpretation of what they mean. I do not think a physician is necessarily going to delegate, or avoid his responsibility for interpreting, to a chiropractor, or perhaps vice versa.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Still could not the films follow the patient? I think in this case there were about 70 and the doctor did not even see what the chiropractor took.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps Dr. Aldis could deal with practicalities in this particular problem?

Dr. J. S. Aldis (Health Insurance Registration): Mr. Chairman, first of all, of course, the films taken by the chiropractor would have a \$25 top limit on them. How many he took I have no idea.

Mr. Innes: He must have taken quite a few.

Dr. Aldis: But we pay no more than \$25 in a 12-month period, as a benefit, but chiropractors take rather unusual x-rays. Their favourite x-ray is an x-ray of the whole spine, starting from the head to the bottom. It looks almost like a window blind that you can put on the wall. I am not taking one side or the other, but most medical men, particularly if they happen to be an orthopedic surgeon, would have placed no value or no worth upon the film taken or used by the chiropractor. He would, I think, insist, not

only for legal reasons, but also for his own professional satisfaction and justification that he have his own x-rays and take his own x-rays. This type of thing happens, of course, unfortunately too often and it is one of the things we have to look at, but this would be the reason in this case.

Mr. Innes: Okay. Well now you do obligate yourself by reason of paying both, whether it be by radiologist or whether it be by a chiropractor.

Dr. Aldis: There are no limits on the number of films that we will pay for taken by a radiologist or a physician, but there is a \$25 limit on films taken by a chiropractor.

Mr. Innes: But you do have supervision really, do you not? You must, because you would not pay it unless you did.

Dr. Aldis: What do you mean by supervision, sir? I do not quite understand.

Mr. Innes: You must recognize the fact that you have jurisdiction over whether it be a chiropractor or a radiologist.

Dr. Aldis: Oh, that is right. In other words, the minute a chiropractor for a given patient has used up his \$25, then we pay no more after that.

Mr. Innes: Is that \$25 per year per patient?

Dr. Aldis: That is per 12-month period. Actually we use the period from July to July because this is when the plan started and it makes it administratively easier, but it is a 12-month period.

Mr. Innes: Is that per visit?

Dr. Aldis: That is \$25 per 12-month period.

Mr. Innes: Per patient?

Dr. Aldis: Per patient. Yes.

Mr. Chairman: It is Mr. Lewis' turn after the doctor answers.

Dr. Aldis: It is not generally considered good practice for the X-ray to follow the patient because the X-ray was taken at a certain time and in a certain place, and it has an interpretation placed on it by the person who took it at that particular time. The minister's statement that the interpretation is at least as important, if not more important, than the X-ray is what is important.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Dr. Aldis: Yes, but that is all right, that X-ray can and will be sent by any radiologist or any physician to any other physician desiring to use it. There is no problem here, but not to the patient, no.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister one or two questions further as this proceeds about OHSIP and the billing procedures, and so forth. I must admit, Mr. Minister, that I am dealing a little vaguely because inevitably your own position is not entirely documented as indicated from some of the things you have said.

I would ask a question first that occurs to me though. When the 90 per cent constitutes 100 per cent toward full payment, and a large number of doctors accept that and bill the plan directly and do away with the additional 10 per cent billing to the patient. I take it there will be no way for patients anywhere in the Province of Ontario to know that for which the doctor has billed them? And any questions at all which may arise will arise purely because of the computer analysis or assessment made of billing and payments in its own relentless way that these machines have? But the possibility of patients knowing that those bills which the doctors have submitted to OHSIP in which their name is typed will have been lost.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The answer is not necessarily, in that the option is still open to us to imitate the British Columbia system of having the computer payouts go to patients once a year, six months, how often?

Dr. Aldis: British Columbia does it quarterly.

Mr. Lewis: Of what does that information consist?

Dr. Aldis: It is a long time since I have seen one, Mr. Chairman. I think it just consists of a list of dates and services and amounts, and it just says, "In the past three months the following accounts have been paid for services performed for you by Dr. So-and-So" and lists them and the amounts paid.

Mr. Lewis: It lists, say, procedure as well as amount?

Mr. Aldis: It lists procedure and the amount paid, yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Our sheets do now though. Only they are not mailed out. And

as we were mentioning earlier, the query relating to that is sheer cost of mailing and producing it. But I know there are other ways. The member for Port Arthur has described a system that occurred to him, and I am sure there are three or four different ways in which the patient usage link which concerns you can be made.

It certainly concerns me in my mind, and I am sure that of all of us is completely open, searching for the least expensive way in which to involve the patient himself, because obviously—although we are talking about doctors today—the real problem is much greater than doctor billing, it is public use of their system. That is the way we are going to save the hundred millions.

I do not know, Mr. Jessiman, whether you want to speak of your suggestion on how you develop this patient link or not. I do not know where Mr. Jessiman is on this, but it is pertinent to what Mr. Lewis is saying.

Mr. Chairman: If you want to speak on this particular subject that is all right.

Mr. Jessiman: Like all of us I was extremely interested in this computerized information time of our lives to cut costs, and one area that I would ask you to seriously consider would be a health care credit card. The use of it would be instant identification, instant admission to the hospital, or clinic, or doctor's office without having to stand around for 10 or 15 minutes answering questions. It would record possibly the social security number of the patient and a code to identify his blood type, allergies that he may have, the type of ward that he is paying for, whether it be public, semi or private. A reaction to certain drugs—maybe he is diabetic—it could all be on this credit card.

But I think an area that would be most interesting is the instant use of the card going into the hospital or the clinic or the doctor's office, but on the way back out, on discharge, the patient would become aware immediately of the cost of the ward, the cost of the ancillary services, maybe the ambulance that carried him into the hospital or to the doctor's, the x-rays, the cost of the drugs, the cost of the doctor's visits, if it was in the hospital, or the visit in the clinic, and just as you do buying a tank of gas, you sign and they would tear off the top slip and you would take it home and immediately you would be aware of the cost involved of every bit, because, as I say, it is the age of computers.

Mr. Ben: That happens now.

Mr. Lewis: They might even give you a Power Player pack if you are lucky enough.

Mr. Ben: That happens now when you leave a hospital. They give you an itemized account and they ask you to sign.

Mr. Jessiman: But you do not have to stand about for 10 or 15 minutes and lay on a stretcher.

Mr. Ben: This happens now, if you have ever been in a hospital.

Mr. Jessiman: I have seen them have to wait for 15 minutes or 20 minutes for admittance into a hospital in the last few years. I do not say it happens every time.

Mr. Ben: Usually you get an itemized account after you have signed it.

Mr. Jessiman: I think there is value in the suggestion, Mr. Minister, and I would like you to—

Mr. Lewis: We already have such a course. There is a streamlining implied in it of giving the OHSIP number and OHSC number.

I have such an instinctive anxiety about credit cards of any kind that that is probably colouring my reaction, but I have a very strong feeling that somehow the patient component has to be built in. Not because I see any sinister conspiratorial effort on the part of doctors to charge unduly—I do not think there will be any change in billing patterns—but because I think there is some value in the patient's identity or sense of what has taken place, and its cost, as there is for the doctor in knowing that that transaction takes place even if it is a paper transaction.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Just letting them know that nothing is for free?

Mr. Lewis: Well, I suppose that may be an element.

Mr. Singer: The hysterical parent who is worried about his kid's bleeding finger is not assuaged by the thought that he has to go before a very formidable and tired person at three o'clock in the morning—and I have seen this—to fill out constant forms that ask for numbers, and addresses and telephone numbers. It happens, and I know it happens.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is what Mr. Jessiman is describing, something as simple as rolling into a gas station and—

Mr. Singer: And I agree with Mr. Jessiman in contradistinction with Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Lewis: Well, I am not wholly disagreeing. I am just registering caution.

Mr. Ben: People will still have to ask questions to determine whether in fact the card presenter is the owner, and the one way of determining it is by asking where they live and so on.

Mr. Lewis: The socialists do not like to give away something for nothing, Mr. Chairman. I am preserving the caution.

Could I ask the minister whether any cases at all were referred to the College of Physicians and Surgeons by OHSIP or by the department in relation to the broad area of overbilling or excessive servicing, or undue procedures or whatever? In the 18 months—is it 18 months now?—since the plan has been in operation, since October 1969, has anything ever been referred to the Ontario college?

Dr. Aldis: Yes, we have referred a number to the college. I do not have any examples with me. I am trying to think of several. Some of the things we have referred to the college have been cases where physicians have demanded payment in advance before they will fill out the insurance form, or before they will provide the service. This may be of the 10 per cent or it may be an amount they are billing over and above the 100 per cent, but they are demanding payment in advance and we have had, not a lot, but I would say far too many complaints of this kind which we have referred to the college because we have no ability to act.

I have an example with me tonight which I can quote, which is the example of the young physician who hit the newspaper, who was giving injections for obesity and he appeared before us some time ago and we had some of Toronto's leading endocrinologists at the meeting with us and while we were, I think, all there in agreement this was just something of a—I must use this in quotes, I guess—something of a “racket,”—we still had no authority to act so we referred that to the College of Physicians and Surgeons. I do not know where that stands at the moment but that is the latest case that has been referred there.

Mr. Shulman: I referred it.

Dr. Aldis: We referred it also, following our meeting.

Mr. Lewis: There is something called a medical adjustment committee. I do not know whether that is under the Act or within the college.

Dr. Aldis: That is just an administrative arrangement.

Mr. Lewis: That is just an administrative arrangement?

Dr. Aldis: That we have, together with the Ontario Medical Association. It consists of the senior members of the medical staff and myself, representing OHSP, the chairman and the general secretary of the Ontario Medical Association, plus four or five other members of the committee who may vary with the specialty of the physicians being seen. For instance, if they are general practitioners being seen, then they will be general practitioners on the committee.

This is known as a joint review and advisory committee, which will continue to function much more extensively in the future than it has in the past to assist us in drawing up the extra rules that we need and which we do not have now—the extra rules in addition to the rules of the OMA fee schedule. It has functioned in the past, as I say, to review the cases of these physicians when our attention has been drawn to a particular problem.

Mr. Lewis: Right. Do you have an idea of the rough numbers of cases you have reviewed?

Dr. Aldis: Yes, we have reviewed 12.

Mr. Lewis: You have reviewed 12. Twelve in the 18 months of the plan?

Dr. Aldis: No, we needed approximately a year's information, we thought, so we started with this last September. About 10 months.

Mr. Lewis: I see. The medical adjustment committee has, within the general parameter of the Act, given you a means by which these excesses have come to light, or you have taken on—

Dr. Aldis: No, we have brought the excesses to light. We have used that committee to give us support in attempting to change these doctors' practices.

Mr. Lewis: And then you would take this information to the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons?

Dr. Aldis: If we felt that there was unethical conduct involved, but this is the only case out of the 12 we have seen which was taken to the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Mr. Lewis: The case which you referred to as "a racket."

Dr. Aldis: This was our feeling, yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The problem here is that the legislation under which the college operates in its disciplinary function is not designed really to equate ethics vis-a-vis an insurance scheme or a government scheme. It is designed basically as being an old-fashioned piece of legislation to relate to professional conduct in the professional sense, unrelated to the charges.

Mr. Lewis: Unrelated to the matter of charge and cost. Like treating obesity with injections, rather than sending them to Weight Watchers. In other words, it is an abuse of medical procedure, or an unethical one.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It can be, of course, both, and an abuse of the scheme can be an abuse of good practice. Well, the example you gave us was a good one, but hopefully our new legislation, of course, will empower the college to move into the field of total assessment of the medical function and the financial payment.

Mr. Lewis: Right. You have talked a good deal about new legislation, probably in my absence from the committee. Have you given yourself a target date for new legislation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, I would like to see—

Mr. Trotter: Before the election.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Everything we do is before the election.

Mr. Singer: Everything you do, or everything you think of?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think that there will be an election under our system, and everything is before an election.

The answer I would have to this is, yes, I would like to see it before the summer recess and I think we can do it.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, really?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: Well then, that will certainly cast the debate in a different context if we then see what you precisely come up with.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: That, I must say, answers a very great concern I have as to how long this procedure would generally take.

Can the minister tell me why in his statement of today, page 4(6) about incomes owed from July 1 to September 30, 1970, he indicated that six psychiatrists had incomes-per-patient of over \$200, while the average for psychiatrists was \$80? It is that excessive for a three-month period, assuming individual—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, again, as was mentioned earlier this afternoon, we are dealing with the problem only on the basis of raw statistics. We are not in the position yet of dealing with Mr. Brown, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Smith, Mr. Jones, nor with the judgements of physicians, but I think you would allow that when you see these extraordinary aberrations in the norms that they trigger a response from our point of view.

Mr. Lewis: Well, I was triggered with a response between \$18.67 as an average for GPs generally and \$300 for five GPs.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: But what do you pay now under OHSIP? Is it 90 per cent of \$20, or 90 per cent of \$25 for a visit with a psychiatrist?

Dr. Aldis: I think it is more than that. It is \$30 I think.

Mr. Lewis: Is it \$30?

Dr. Aldis: I might be able to explain that, I think, Mr. Minister.

These general practitioners with the very high incomes are, in fact, psychoanalysts. As you may not know, psychoanalysts do not take the same training as the more orthodox psychiatrists. As a result, they are not certified in psychiatry, although they may be practising psychoanalysis, which is a very special type of psychiatry, and as you know, psychoanalysis consists of a very long period of treatment. This is the classical couch sort of treatment, as you know, originated by Freud, and this is a very long treatment. These men are, in fact, practising psychoanalysis, but the computer, of course, has them listed as general practitioners because they do not appear on—

Mr. Lewis: Oh, the five GPs are psychoanalysts. Do not ever tell them they are just GPs!

Dr. Aldis: I think that some of them are not just GPs—no, they are psychoanalysts.

Mr. Lewis: Just as no psychiatrist should think that Freud was confined purely to the psychoanalysts.

Mr. Singer: What about the other one—there is quite a school following him?

Dr. Aldis: Jung.

Mr. Singer: Do you like Freud in preference to Jung?

Mr. Lewis: How did this happen?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, this is an—

Mr. Lewis: I do want to pursue this esoteric point just one further step. The psychoanalysts whom you have indicated here are, in fact, fully qualified medical practitioners.

Dr. Aldis: They are fully qualified medical practitioners.

Mr. Lewis: They have psychoanalytic training.

Dr. Aldis: That is right, they have psychoanalytic training which does not qualify them to become certified psychiatrists.

Mr. Lewis: Of course, that may be the problem of the certified psychiatrists, not of the analysts, some of us would argue.

Dr. Aldis: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: I wanted to ask the minister one other question. What fee is granted for the giving of injections?

Mr. Shulman: Three dollars.

Mr. Lewis: Three dollars? And that is when somebody comes to a doctor's office and receives an injection?

Dr. Aldis: It is just \$2 for an ordinary subcutaneous or intramuscular injection, I think. It is \$3, I think, for an intravenous injection, or \$3 for a—unless it has gone up. We had better check to make sure.

Mr. Shulman: It is \$2 for a vaccination, but \$3 for an allergy injection.

Dr. Aldis: That is right, \$3 for an allergy injection by a general practitioner. But that is not listed as an injection. That is listed as hyposensitization, and that is—

Mr. Lewis: That is why we want the right to negotiate the fee schedule, so that they can be understood!

Dr. Aldis: There is quite a difference because a person getting a hyposensitizing injection must wait, theoretically, for half an hour for observation by the physician until such time he or she is free to leave the office.

Mr. Lewis: I see. Well, now, I am entering on very tender ground, but I take it that when a patient pays a visit to the doctor's office and receives an injection—at the \$2 or \$3 level—that the doctor is expected to bill purely for the injection not for the visit.

Dr. Aldis: That is right, provided he does nothing else.

Mr. Lewis: All right, that is interesting. Mr. Minister, you talk in terms of the practice of a number of individual physicians to substitute higher-cost for lower-cost items in their submissions by claim—which is a wording of very great caution. You eliminate from it any fraudulent intent. It is a very, very judicious choice of words. But the items which you document, both in your original speech to the OMA—which, as you know, I thought was really quite a first-rate speech—and also in the document you have tabled, you indicate a great many areas of excess which have raised enormous anxiety in the public mind. I think it is fair to say it has received a great deal of press and public attention. Also there is a very great sense of futility about coping with it.

The medical profession is in some state of panic at the moment. One can hear nothing but discussions of Bert Lawrence and his speech to the OMA. I, alas, have my wife in hospital at the moment. I have been visiting her rather regularly and all I hear about in the corridors is the lion of the Tory party, as he acts as the scourge of the medical profession. And some of us, never having confronted the medical profession before, are amazed to see the new legacy which you have acquired for yourself.

Mr. Shulman: "If our friends treat us like that, how will you treat us?"

Mr. Lewis: Right, it is the first time doctors have ever smiled at me in my history as a politician. But are you, I mean sort of gently angling towards—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Lewis: Well the day that the member for Ontario smiles at me, the apocalypse will have been achieved. Not the millennium, just the apocalypse.

You are confident in your own mind, Mr. Minister, that the legislation in June or July, whenever it occurs, will quite sufficiently clear the air? We can, in fact, I am asking for almost a—

Mr. Singer: Breathe easier.

Mr. Lewis: I am placing a good deal of confidence in the way in which the minister puts things. Are you going to deal in a particular, regulatory way with matters of excess and abuse and give to the Legislature and your department very specific rights under the Act, correcting it? I am less interested in the criminal inhibitions than I am in the sense that there is a—

Mr. Singer: The minister is bound to say no.

Mr. Lewis: I want to hear whether the minister is prepared to go to this extent?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, completely. I picture the medical financial audit being total in its capacity and there are certain circumstances to have a complete assessment of a physician's conduct financially, vis-à-vis his patients and the way he practices. I see no reason to have inhibitions there. Nor do I picture a great assault upon anyone, because the capacity to investigate is in itself very important.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, I must interrupt you, this just is not correct, because as of July when you bring in this new legislation the fact still remains that of the 40 insurance companies involved there is going to be absolutely no way whatsoever to check any of their figures. And that is going to go on for at least another year. There is no check of any one of the insurance companies. There is absolutely none.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but we are not outlawed, this might apply I suppose to a degree.

Mr. Shulman: But that is \$200 million right there.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, no. I do not know what percentage of doctors bill only designated agencies.

Mr. Shulman: None. All doctors bill OHSIP and designated agencies, half go to OHSIP and half go to the designated agencies. So if the doctor wants to be dishonest all he has to do beginning July 1 is be honest in his billings that go direct to OHSIP and do all his padding through the 43 insurance companies.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, as I pointed out earlier, I hope—and this may be more difficult in timing—I mean I can picture the legislation giving the government the power of audit being through the Legislature fairly quickly. It is a little bit more difficult in time. I mean if we were sitting permanently I could say within a month or two later the college could have the same powers. The impact will build up.

Mr. Shulman: But you cannot build up, you cannot even get figures from the insurance companies now. Is it not correct that you have written them about certain doctors and cannot get the information?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, not about certain doctors I do not think.

Dr. Aldis: It is very, very difficult to get, Mr. Minister. But in partial answer to this question, since we have 60 per cent of the population on our own rolls this is ample to investigate a doctor's padding a practice. And if we decide from investigating that pattern that his account should be taxed, we will also instruct the designated agents to tax his accounts too.

Mr. Shulman: But, Mr. Minister, is it not obvious that doctors also read the newspapers and they are going to be aware that as of July 1 you are able through your computer to tell exactly what is happening, but the insurance companies cannot? Now every doctor knows which patients are on the direct and which ones go through the insurance companies. And if a man is dishonest it is the simplest thing in the world. After July 1 all he has to do is—the 60 per cent that goes to you is worded straight, and the other 40 per cent double it up. And you are not going to have the foggiest notion about it.

Mr. Ben: Doctors only read the financial pages.

Dr. Aldis: I do not follow that, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Shulman: It is very simple. That patient comes into the office, the first thing he does is present his card to the nurse or the doctor. It shows where the bill goes, and if the bills says the Prudential or the London Life, or Sun Life or John Hancock or any of the others, he knows there is no audit. And there cannot be an audit because there is no system of audit set up.

Dr. Aldis: We are not talking about an audit, I am talking about the tax now.

Mr. Shulman: But you are not really aware of the pattern of practice.

Dr. Aldis: Yes, because we will have the pattern of practice from our own 60 per cent. This is where all our information comes from now.

Mr. Shulman: You are missing the point I am making. Up to now there was obviously no reason why a dishonest man should discriminate. As of July 1, there will be a reason. He knows that the 60 per cent that is coming in through OHSIP directly—

Dr. Aldis: He will be taxed the same way in a designated agency.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Shulman is right to the degree that there will be an interim period of—

Mr. Shulman: One year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but as the OHSIP buildings enlarge, well they are 60 per cent now. I suppose particular doctors cheating in a particular way, as long as they divided their accounts and were very careful would have room for manoeuvre vis-à-vis—

Mr. Shulman: It is easy.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —to the designated agents—I cannot quarrel with that. But we can only do what we can.

Mr. Shulman: But there is a solution. There is no reason to wait until July of 1972 to let the insurance companies keep this up. Either bring them in now, which is what should be done, or if you do not want to do that, insist that they use some sort of system which is checkable.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If I thought that the abuse portion was that significant, let us consider it. If we feel that this danger is real, then certainly you are right we could do it.

Mr. Singer: You hold the whip.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The ultimate whip we hold.

Mr. Singer: Of course you do, and if there is an escape hatch then close it.

Mr. Lewis: We will not bully the minister into closing it, because if we do the headlines tomorrow will read, "Lawrence closes escape hatch." Far be it, I am not inclined to contend with him.

Mr. Singer: The leader of the NDP we are here for public service not particularly for individual—

Mr. Lewis: The fact is Mr. Minister, I think—

Mr. Singer: If we can tell the minister how best to do it, let us tell him.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Administratively there would be quite a bit of machinery to be put into gear. We would have to have people going to the companies, we would have the companies and their adjusters—

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, just last month you found it very simple to put the six designated agents out of business. Why can you not proceed to put the insurance companies out of business in exactly the same way? There is no real need to wait to July 1972, you could put two out of business today, two next month, two every month, so that you would have a progressive cleaning out of this whole thing.

Mr. Singer: Is the member for High Park closing the escape hatch on the member for Scarborough West?

Mr. Lewis: The minister is phasing them out anyway is he not?

Mr. Shulman: July 1972.

Mr. Lewis: Well that is what I wanted to be the one to ask. Do you expect them all to close their doors on July 1, 1972, or will it be a phased—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. They act for us under conditions set by us until July, 1972.

Mr. Lewis: All right. Will any of them leave their role as agents prior to July 1, 1972?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I would hope not because if we can run our system up to

one date, it will be so much better than if we had people fiddling and dropping out. As a matter of fact, they have all committed themselves, have they not, all except one, I believe.

Dr. Aldis: There is one that is doubtful at the moment, but there are 23 left which we can count on.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They have committed themselves to accepting conditions of withdrawal, handling the thing and turning it over on that date.

Mr. Lewis: May I make the last point—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I am just thinking, you know, maybe there is a way with the officers of the companies involved to delegate to them certain powers without us getting involved in scrutinizing the scrutineers.

Mr. Singer: Follow the government's policy—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, you know, it is a cost benefit thing at a certain point. You see, we are not attacking a whole profession here. We are trying to come to grips with isolated cases. Let us access the cost benefit of dealing with the designated agents during that interim period.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, what is the magic point? What is the magic in July 1, 1972? Why do you have to wait a year?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, as I said, administratively to set up an interim machinery to audit through the present designated agents.

Mr. Shulman: No, no, I am not suggesting auditing. Why do you not just bring them in, the way you brought in Russell, Toly, and Eckler and Murray Bulger and all the others last month? All the designated agents were just like—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They are still operating.

Mr. Shulman: No, they are finished. *Kaput.*

Dr. Aldis: These were smaller organizations that we felt we could swallow without getting too much indigestion, but to swallow the remaining 2,000,000 people in the province that belong to the major designated agents would be just mayhem again, I am afraid.

Mr. Lewis: You did it in October, 1969.

Dr. Aldis: I do not think I could live through it again.

Mr. Shulman: Yes, but there is no reason why you cannot bring in companies like National Life. I mean, why is National Life allowed to continue for example? There is a small listing there. You could absorb them with no trouble.

Dr. Aldis: I think National Life is one of the ones that is gone, is it not?

Mr. Shulman: Well, it was there today anyway.

Dr. Aldis: In essence, we asked as many as possible of the larger ones to stay in operation until July 1, 1972, because a sudden cutoff is much preferable—

Mr. Shulman: But you kept a lot of the smaller ones too.

Dr. Aldis: Only because they volunteered to stay. We did not want to cut any of them out unless we had some reason for wanting them out or unless they wanted out. These are the main reasons that they left. We really wanted as many of them in as possible because the system after July 1, 1972, bears no relation to what is happening before July 1. It is a sudden new deal, you see.

Mr. Shulman: That is not quite right, what you said. You asked all the designated agents to step out last month. You did not let any of them stay. You did not say, "Will you stay"—you went to Russell Toly and Eckler and Murray Bulger—you went to every one of them and said, "You are out." Now why in the world can you not do the same thing with the other small ones?

Dr. Aldis: That was just a special group of brokers. They were not full-fledged designated agents and they had a special contract with us which expired on March 31.

Mr. Shulman: Yes, but they wanted—

Dr. Aldis: And because this is a very difficult problem of enrolling these—our bank employees—we felt that if we had a year in which we could master this problem and perhaps improve on it, this would be to our benefit and to the welfare of the people in the province to take them over now. This was a very special circumstance which bears no relation to the sort of standard business that London Life, Confederation Life and the rest of the major companies carry on.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Minister, I must say the point is this, I do not think that you can allow the system to continue for another full year without either bringing them in or else putting in some control of the audit.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What is the function of the resident officer in these companies, Dr. Charron?

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, I think that the resident officers that we have functioning with the designated agents can be instructed and can work towards spotting a good many of the irregularities that we are talking about, so that it is not just a gap in the programme. The resident officers can achieve quite a bit.

Mr. Shulman: Well, let us take a company like London Life. How can you expect a resident officer there—who is really up to his ears as it is just spot-checking to see that an office call is paid at office call rates or that house calls are listed properly—how could you possibly expect him to do what in effect is an audit in addition, and besides which, if he were to start now, he would not get through thousands of the doctors that are going through?

Dr. Charron: I think you are misinterpreting, Dr. Shulman, the way the resident officer functions. The staff of that organization really function under his direction and there is no reason why the resident officer could not instruct the staff of that organization to look in a particular way for irregularities. So it is not a question of the resident officer checking through paper individually. It will be a question of the resident officer directing the staff to function in a way that would allow him to detect irregularities.

Mr. Shulman: Why has no resident officer in any of the insurance companies done that up to now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is what we were discussing earlier—a pre-audit and after-audit position will be—

Mr. Ben: How long would it take you to put in such a system? How soon could it be implemented and how much is anticipated based on statistical averages that it would recover?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot tell you. That is why I keep—I might as well set it to music—those eight questions of mine were questions. I cannot give you the statistical estimate or the wildest guess as to what is

involved. All I do know is that those questions deserve to be asked.

Mr. Lewis: I thought when you asked—I thought—well, the minister makes very great care to distinguish between questions and allegations.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Should I not?

Mr. Lewis: Well you certainly should, but had those questions come from any member of the opposition in this system, we would have been pilloried across the province for the allegations made about the medical profession. The minister therefore uses his office to convert what are patently allegations about the conduct of medical practice into euphemistic questions about some doctor and his deviation.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think I am being absolutely dead honest in this. They are questions. Whether you would be pilloried or not is a—

Mr. Lewis: I am making a philosophic point.

Mr. Singer: He makes a very good philosophic point.

Mr. Lewis: The fact is that they are not questions, Mr. Minister, they are charges in every sense of the political word and you have done it—you have used terms like “Why are unconscionable claims!” Unconscionable! That is one of the most inflammatory pejoratives you can use in the—I am being frank—in the political arena. “Unconscionable claims submitted for assessment time.”—“Why are claims reaching OHSIP which do not represent the services provided?” That implies fraud. That is an outright allegation.

It is not a sort of ingenuous question on the part of a naive and searching man. It is a man who has obviously taken the tapes from the OHSIP computers. The OHSIP people have indicated that they are anxious about it, and you are taking it to the public. Now I am saying that you handled this in an astute political way. I see what you are doing. But these are more than questions. You are raising serious qualms about the whole conduct of medical practice in the Province of Ontario and those doctors who felt that the profession was under attack—the profession, capital P—were, in fact, reflecting what the public felt and that was because they were allegations not questions, however they be called.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, I said that in my speech. One of the fundamental points that I tried to make is that the essence of professionalism is joint responsibility, whether it be lawyers or dentists or doctors or engineers. That is what the word profession means—that there is an over-riding responsibility of one to another that does not exist between, shall we say, car salesmen or shoe salesmen. They are not responsible for all their brother shoe salesmen.

Mr. Singer: You are not a naive inquirer, you are the accuser. You made a series of accusations.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You cannot find—

Mr. Singer: As you should have.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You cannot find in my opinion aberrations or misconduct within a profession without it, by definition, reflecting against everyone in that profession because it is a joint effort.

Mr. Ben: A point of order!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And that, to me, is what the word means.

Mr. Lewis: A point of order.

Mr. Ben: A point of order. We spent the first day of the estimates thoroughly threshing out this very thing. As a matter of fact, the very words that the leader of the NDP used we went over and we got the same answers and it is in Hansard, with all due respect, the exact words that he used and the exact arguments. It was threshed over, threshed over, threshed over and at that time there were only two opposition members here and now all of a sudden we are flooded with a lot of people, we are flooded with the press and we are repeating the same old darn thing over and over again.

Mr. Lewis: Does the member for Humber feel he has been inhibited from participating here in these estimates? I sense that he has had his say from time to time.

Mr. Ben: No, but it is the same thing over and over and over again.

Mr. Singer: You are accusing. Substantiate it!

Mr. Lewis: I think, number one, that there has to be, Mr. Minister, much more evidence given—hard core evidence—I must admit some of it came forward today—much more specific evidence given to underlie, to give substance

to, the questions raised. That is really important because otherwise a really serious disservice is done to the public as well as the medical profession.

2. You have raised all these questions about the abuse of medical practice in Ontario, and the questions have been raised in the most unfortunate of contexts which is the financial context. I am not saying you should not have, I am saying that necessarily tying unhappy medical conduct to financial realities to make it seem as though the acquisitive, unscrupulous instinct were at work, which has been the link throughout, that is the link through all of your allegations. It is a financial link, it is not just a medical audit, it is a financial audit.

Having raised that financial link in the public mind then surely you have to agree with what the member for High Park says. That having these very major questions, having made everyone feel that things which doctors do may not be medically, procedurally wrong, but financially immoral, it seems to me that you have got to close all the escape routes. That means that you cannot simply deal with those steps on July 1, 1971, but you have to make some kind of herculean effort to keep the designated agents toughly under scrutiny in public terms.

Because it is your questions that we are responding to, Mr. Minister. You have raised the qualms and the anxiety. You cannot then cut off 60 per cent of it and leave the other 40 per cent to operate, even if you yourself feel, and I am inclined to feel, the number of doctors who might take advantage of a designated agent can be counted on the fingers of X hands—in the plural. And even though perhaps it is not endemic to medical practice to manipulate the practice and the way of doing it, you, sir, have raised the questions, and you, therefore, must give a sense to the public that everything is under control, and the public will very quickly twig on July 2, 1971, that you have handled OHSIP scrupulously, but that London Life and everybody else can be billed by practitioners without the same controls. And with great respect, Dr. Charron, the point the member for High Park makes is a valid one. Your residents, with all their workload, are not going to be your ombudsmen for the insurance companies.

The people who look at your computer printouts and take it very seriously in OHSIP will probably have a separate branch and a separate role. They will have relationships

with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and with the particular committee which Dr. Aldis discussed, and it will be a rigorous, searching, no-nonsense analysis, as the money is saved and the plan is made to operate. That has to be felt about the private designated agents as much as it is about OHSIP, and that, believe it or not, was the drift of these various questions and feelings about this, Mr. Minister. And that, when your legislation comes down, sir, we will look for and will speechify about it pretty toughly.

Mr. Singer: Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, what the member for Scarborough West is saying is that the minister is not a rhetorical questioner. The minister is an accuser, far different from the member for Scarborough West or myself.

When the minister poses these questions to which there seems to be an accusation, the minister is in fact accusing. One must anticipate that when those questions come from the minister, he then has the responsibility to bring in the legislation to remedy the accusations which he has found are extant.

Now this is the final test. It is not sufficient for the minister at this point to retire and say I am only asking questions—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, I would not say that.

Mr. Singer: —because the minister is not an ordinary member of the Legislature; the minister is an unusual person. He is the Minister of Health, who, by reason of all of the information he has at his command, asks very important and significant questions. Having asked them, unless he gets the responsible answers—and in my hearing in this committee he has not had them—he must bring in the legislation, or else he must resign.

Now the minister, having posed those questions, has a responsibility at the earliest possible opportunity to bring in the legislation to remedy the abuses which he has indicated exist, by reason of his asking those specific nine or 10 or 12 questions.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You are right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

If the hon. member for Humber will permit I would like to get back to the need for medical and dental practitioners in northern Ontario. I do not want to play the numbers

game with the minister, or any of his staff, and I am not particularly concerned about how many doctors there are in southern or northern Sweden.

I would like to know how many doctors have been directed or sent, or enticed, to go into northern Ontario as a result of the incentive plan for doctors.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Copeman?

Dr. W. J. Copeman (Public Health Service): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Minister, there are presently 14 physicians on our programme who have elected to go to northern Ontario, that is defining northern Ontario as that part of Ontario north of the French River. Also there are 12 additional physicians on our programme who have been approved and will be going into the same areas in northern Ontario in the next short while.

Mr. Stokes: Do you know where they will be going?

Dr. Copeman: Yes, we know where the 12 are going. We have an additional eight doctors on our programme who have been approved for the programme but as yet have not selected the area where they will go to practice, and some of these may elect to go to northern Ontario.

Mr. Stokes: Now the \$5 million that the minister referred to for the health resources development plan—I think it was indicated that a portion of that was being expended on the incentives programme for doctors and dentists into northern Ontario. Is that correct? How much of the \$5 million would you say in rough all part figures would have been expended on that programme?

Dr. Reid: The estimate this year for that portion alone is about \$300,000.

Mr. Stokes: That is for doctors and dentists? \$300,000. All right. I want to put it in this context. About \$300,000 of the \$5 million that is being spent in this fiscal year for health resources development—I would like to say to the minister that northern Ontario residents pay the same OHSIP premiums, and they have to pay the same fees as anybody else—and in many cases more, for services—to dentists, because they do not have the option of going to the choice of dentists, you know; there is only one. In many, many cases they have to drive 200, 300 or 400 miles to get a tooth extracted or get a tooth filled.

Yet, as I say, when you get back to the OHSIP premiums, they are paying the same

standard premium right across the province for which they have to travel many, many miles in order to enjoy the same services, whether they be diagnostic or consultative services with medical practitioners.

So I am wondering—and I have raised it with your predecessor and the one before that—if there is a possibility of incorporating the cost of travelling to medical facilities? You know, it costs somebody in Toronto say one dollar or 50 cents or 25 cents for bus fare in order to get to a doctor, and yet in many places in northern Ontario it means \$180 air fare to a doctor or a hospital in Sioux Lookout, or for emergency services into Thunder Bay. I am wondering if the minister has considered making the cost of travelling to existing health centres or to doctors who are competent to make a diagnosis—if he would not consider making the cost of travel a cost to the OHSIP plan?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The question was raised by the member's colleague, the member for Sudbury East—

Mr. Stokes: What was the minister's answer?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —or the member for Cochrane South.

Mr. Ben: We have been busy for a week.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: He really opened up quite a field here because all services, of course, that the taxpayer is provided with, tend to relate to population centres.

Mr. Stokes: But is it not a fraud, though, to be taking money from those people, knowing so well that the only way they are going to be able to take advantage of it is to travel hundreds of miles to the nearest facility?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is virtually true of all federal and provincial programmes, is it not? Whether it be education, social and family service benefits?

Mr. Stokes: No, there are specific grants. Say, in the field of education, if there is only—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They only cover a small proportion. A university student does not get anything like this.

Mr. Stokes: No, not a university student, but certainly up to grade 13, if there is no school withing busing distance they are provided a living allowance of something like, I think it is \$4, or \$4.50—

Mr. Jessiman: Three dollars, is it not?

Mr. Stokes: —so that there are provisions for exigencies such as that. I am wondering, as an alternative to that, why could not the minister provide air ambulances or mobile clinics staffed by doctors' assistants? I noticed that Mr. Munro at the federal level is seriously considering such a programme of training doctors' assistants. I do not know how familiar the minister is with the programme that has been initiated in the far north in many places like Big Trout Lake and Fort Hope and many places like that where they have set up these clinics that are very well equipped.

They are usually staffed by about two nurses who have direct radio-telephone hook-up to base hospital which is Sioux Lookout or Moosonee or some place like that, where these very dedicated nurses are able to consult with doctors at base hospitals, make a snap diagnosis based on information given them by the doctor and on a joint decision they are flown out.

We have a case of discrimination in reverse. Now, Pickle Lake is the most northerly community in the Province of Ontario that you can actually drive to. You can drive much further north than that but there is nobody living along that particular access road. Pickle Lake is about 350 miles northwest of Thunder Bay and if it were not for the co-operation that we receive from The Department of National Health and Welfare, those people would have to travel 350 miles to Thunder Bay to gain access to a doctor.

What they have done is they have a nursing centre 20 miles south of Pickle Lake that is designed specifically to meet the needs of status Indians. Now, in an emergency, the white population from Pickle Lake can journey down to Osnaburgh, a health clinic that is staffed by two nurses from The Department of National Health and Welfare and they will look after their immediate needs after they have satisfied the needs of the Indian population.

I prevailed upon the Minister of National Health and Welfare to make the residents of Central Patricia and Pickle Lake aware of the dates upon which medical specialists come from the University of Toronto and the Toronto Sick Children's Hospital. They travel to many of these northern communities and these people are the most highly skilled medical practitioners and specialists in the province.

These people are getting excellent care from them and, as I say, the minister, Mr.

Munro, has allowed or consented to allow the white people from Pickle Lake to go down there after they have been notified when these people will be coming in. Other than that, as I say, they have to drive the 350 miles into Thunder Bay.

Now, I am wondering why the minister cannot, in remote areas like that, set up some kind of a clinic or at least co-operate with what is being done at the federal level; complement what they are doing, so that that service will be available to all people, not just treaty Indians.

Is there any way in which—you know, it seems to me that the minister is interested in the health of people, as is The Department of National Health and Welfare. Why cannot there be a much greater degree of co-operation to provide the same kind of services for all people in an area instead of this so-called discrimination that we have?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That particular facility as I understand it, was developed by the province and the federal government in co-operation and in consultation with our people and their people.

Mr. Stokes: No!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron?

Mr. Stokes: I was there for the opening and there was nobody, but nobody, there representing the provincial government.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We may not have been invited.

Mr. Stokes: I am sure that if the provincial government had participated in it at all, you would have been invited. It was my understanding that it cost The Department of National Health and Welfare well in excess of \$100,000 to establish that facility at Osnaburgh. Nobody ever indicated that there was a penny put into the project by the provincial government. If so, how much?

Dr. Charron: I think, Mr. Chairman, the fact that these physicians are coming from the Hospital for Sick Children and most of them are on the teaching staff, through their employment on the teaching staff they receive provincial support and provincial funds for the services.

Mr. Stokes: Oh yes; okay!

Dr. Charron: They also arrange for other practitioners to go up there from other resources that are really provincial in scope.

We discussed this with the federal government and it was agreed that while these arrangements would be made primarily to serve their interests, in each case it would be established that the population as a whole in that particular area would receive the benefits of the service.

Mr. Stokes: I see.

Dr. Charron: There are other arrangements with similar—

Mr. Stokes: I was talking about the clinic as Osnaburgh. Never at any time did anybody ever indicate to me that provincial moneys went into it. I will not dispute the fact that there had to be some degree of co-ordination between the federal and provincial authorities to even get these doctors up there.

I understand The Department of Lands and Forests fly them up there so there is that degree of co-operation and, I suppose, to the extent that you suggest. But never at any time did the people at Pickle Lake or Central Patricia ever get the impression, nor were they notified that they had use of the experience and the visits of these doctors who were coming in.

I know that I had to co-ordinate that with the hon. Mr. Munro myself because never at any time did they ever indicate that they had a perfect right to go down there and use that facility.

I am wondering why there is not more co-operation like this? I just use Pickle Lake as an instance; there are many others, like Armstrong and many of the other out-of-the-way places where health services are non-existent. I am wondering; as I say, for the last three years since I have been down here I have tried to highlight this. It was highlighted by the design for development; by the three northern Ontario conferences that were held at Sudbury, Timmins and Thunder Bay.

Every time anybody from the north gets an opportunity to express their views on this, it comes up to any number of cabinet ministers. Yet I was talking to a chap tonight who said that there was a possibility that Schreiber would be losing its doctor. There is a town of 2,200 and we spent about eight months getting him and he has been there just about a little over a year, maybe a year and a half, and there is a very real possibility that we will lose him again. Do we have to go through this whole thing? We are getting old fast trying to keep up with things and attract doctors in areas where they are so badly needed. Do you have any—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is no dollar limit on this plan.

Mr. Stokes: There is—all right, now let us get back to the dentist. We had a dentist in the town of Manitouwadge who was making—I am not sure, I think it was either \$12,000 or \$14,000 a year. It was not lucrative enough for him and for very obvious reasons. He could have made triple that amount anywhere else.

But we made application—first of all, he made application to this department to qualify under the incentive programme for dentists. It was something like \$22,000 for a dentist. He made application and they said no, he did not qualify because he was already there.

We said that if he did not qualify he was going to leave and somebody said, "that is fine; we will get somebody else to go there." It made very little sense to us to discourage him from remaining by not making the incentive available to him and then, when he left, trying to attract somebody else under the same programme.

We are still wondering why this fellow did not qualify because he was bound and bent he was going to move out if he did not qualify under the programme. Yet he was allowed to move and that community went without a dentist for over a year just for that reason.

Mr. Jessiman: On the same vein, Mr. Chairman, would the minister give consideration to an extension course of possibly two years at the end of RN training—whether it be male or female—a graduate nurse, to take two years of dentistry, and have the permission to drill cavities in outlying areas, especially because, as the member for Thunder Bay knows, in many cases children's teeth have had to be extracted because the dentist did not have time to drill the amount that particular day and rather than have the child suffer with a decayed tooth at some time later on during the winter, they would extract the tooth because it was quicker than filling it.

This has happened before. Would you consider such a course?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will give it some thought, but I would much sooner see a struggle to get first class dentistry into an area than second rate dentistry.

Mr. Jessiman: Oh, certainly you would!

Mr. Stokes: But just to highlight the need of it, Mr. Minister, we had a dentist who has

since retired. He was in the mobile dental car that ran up and down the Canadian Pacific Railway. There was another one on the CNR and if we had about three more, we could use them.

But this dentist told me—a Doctor Toll—that he found himself having to put partial plates in the mouths of grade eight students, time after time after time, just because it was the first time they had ever been exposed to a dentist.

It is a sad state of affairs when we get people living right along the main line of our major railways who cannot get dental services and dental attention much oftener than they are getting it at the present time.

So I am wondering, in view of what I have said, not only on this occasion but on previous occasions, has the department come up with any kind of plan at all, could they give us any ray of hope that all of these requests, and the begging and the cap-in-hand sessions that we have had, certainly over the last three and one-half years to my knowledge, are going to bear any fruit by way of anything concrete or anything tangible that you have by way of plans for bringing better dental and medical facilities to the north?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are expanding the exercise but whether we are doing it to the degree asked by the hon. member, I do not know. What are our plans? I know we expect more buses; and we are redoing one of our cars are we not? Go ahead.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, we presently have two railway cars. We will be taking over from the Red Cross the three mobile buses that they have. We have the programme that Dr. Copeman described with regard to physicians which has shown a fairly good response in the limited time that the programme has been in operation.

I am not sure of the number of dentists that we have placed, but it seems to me that they are in the 20s now with dentists we have placed. Certainly we would like to be more successful in this regard and to encourage more dentists and more doctors to go into these areas and make better use of assistants in association with them. This is the type of programme we hope to sponsor and hope to have greater success in meeting the needs of our area.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, the member for Fort William brought up a good point. Surely there could be a pilot project of a dental auxilliary like the new cross dental

auxilliary of London England, or the New Zealand auxilliary, operating in the kind of situation that he details here to see if they are practical. The studies that have been done on these two types of auxilliaries have suggested that the standard of work is not a second-rate dentistry but in accordance with the procedures they carry out is of a very high quality. Surely you should try a pilot project in this kind of an area and it might be just the answer. I think it is an excellent suggestion.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Certainly in the field of medicine we will, and I would expect that we should in dentistry too. We have got to define the hours of the people who are doing it insofar as they are delegated to take these responsibilities from statutorially defined areas of responsibility for dentists and doctors. The dentistry project would be new to me at the moment, but I cannot see anything wrong with it, and in medicine we are moving towards it by trying to come to grips with the definition of what shall we call, delegated medical assistant, or whatever words we will ever come up with. In the north, yes, both of these deserve—I do not think we need just a pilot project. I think that with the change in the statutory definitions, they become projects right with that.

Mr. Ferrier: I was concerned that you were writing this right off.

Mr. Jessiman: Mr. Chairman, in that I have—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have to define the procedures very carefully, I would think.

Mr. Jessiman: This past weekend I spoke to Dr. Lionel Hastings, one of our better dentists in the west end of Thunder Bay, and made the suggestion to him and asked him what his reaction would be, and it was excellent. He thought that dentists, all of them, would support it.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think we will have to amend the law though—

Dr. Charron: Yes. You have to give them a certain right to practise.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —and define their terms of reference and their parameters and functions.

Mr. Ferrier: I was concerned, when you talked about second-rate dentistry, that you were writing off any consideration of these

type of auxiliaries. I had gathered in our earlier discussions here that you were prepared to look into it in some depth and, if necessary, define their role and introduce them in some limited way within the province.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. All I am cautioning is that I have got to be extremely careful that a service we provide in the north, once provided, is equal in standard to that provided elsewhere.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, at least some service of paramedical or paradecimal personnel would be better in many respects than some of the services they are getting now. There are just none available.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay!

Mr. Stokes: I have two small things I want to bring up. I do not want to take too much time, but I want to get answers to them.

The first deals with the payment of OHSIP premiums by itinerant workers. People in the construction industry who find themselves unemployed for a portion of the year make direct payments on OHSIP premiums; then they get hired on a construction project and they have to come in under the employers' plan. In effect, what they are doing is contributing double. By the time you get over all the red tape and everything else, they are making a double payment for about nine months. Then you have all of this rigamarole about getting a refund of the payments.

On one case that I wrote up to, I think it was, Dr. Martin of the Health Insurance Registration Board about three or four months ago, I never did get a reply. I am wondering, since I suggested that as long as one of these workers could show proof that he had made a direct payment and was continuing to keep up that payment, why was it necessary for him to make another payment through his employer? It amounts to a dual payment. As I say, it is no end of paper work for you people and no end of paper work for the person who is covered, and I am wondering why it would be necessary to make this double payment, when all the employee would have to do is go to his employer and say, "There is my receipt that I have paid by way of money order," or what have you, rather than this dual payment and continual remitting of overpayment of premiums. It seems to me a very inefficient way of doing things and it causes no end of trouble and bother and concern to people who are in this.

The other thing I want to bring up—and maybe you can answer it at the same time—is when a person goes on pension. I had one here just recently where a fellow went on pension and he was forced to contribute nine months in advance; that is, he had to make three payments so it happened that this person had paid nine months in advance. Now anybody going on pension and having to pay that kind of premium it takes quite a kick out of his old age pension and that was written up too. I wrote it up and they gave me a long dissertation about why it was necessary for him to contribute so much in advance to make sure that he did not get in arrears. I am wondering if you could clear up those items for me.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Aldis?

Dr. Aldis: Maybe I could answer the last question first, but I will have to first start out by asking you a question. Are you sure it was not hospital insurance where the nine-month prepayment was required, because they do require a substantially—

Mr. Stokes: Excuse me. I think it was.

Dr. Aldis: Yes, they require a substantially longer prepayment than we do, and of course a real blow initially. But it is a great saving, because it prevents all this muss and fuss that your other people run into when they change from one plan to another. There is no question we cannot do anything else but admit that this is one "h" of a headache to us as well as to the poor people who have to go through this, and we are looking for the millennium in July, 1972, when we are on a single system and a single plan and most of these difficulties can be eliminated.

We do not feel we can sort of divert too many resources now to set up a new system which only has a length of life of 13 months now, you see. But what we have done is to have had a report recently prepared in which it suggests that there might be a central bank, just a data bank, maintained at OHSIP in Toronto whereby any of these people who move a lot from one company to another—and this happens particularly in the north country, of course—could be registered there. Then, for example, if they move from one company to another, the new designated agent in the new company could simply check with the central bank and find out if he or she were listed there and if he were, then he would remain in benefits without any necessity for this double payment.

I may have that just a little mixed up because I do not pretend to be an expert in some of the eligibility proceedings, but it is a problem of which we are well aware. We are doing the best that we possibly can within the constraints of not setting up a totally new system which would only have a life of 13 months.

Mr. Stokes: Could I get an answer to that letter then that I sent so I could assure these people that it was of concern to the people running the plan and—

Dr. Aldis: We are very much concerned. As soon as the meeting is over, if you will give me the name and if you happen to have the number with you I can easily give you an answer to it, but it is a real headache.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Shulman?

Mr. Shulman: I have two brief matters I want to bring up, Mr. Chairman.

First of all, we talk a lot about utilizing doctors' time properly, but one of the nightmares of OHSIP for a doctor is the end of the month. I know what happens in an office. We have a pile of some hundreds of cards which then have to be sorted in 25 piles, and my secretary and myself and her daughter come in, and we spend literally a morning sorting all these things out and then mailing them off to the various insurance companies.

This is really a terrible waste of the doctor's time, his staff's time, and everybody else's time that is involved. One way you could avoid this in this next year, until these various insurance companies disappear, is to allow all of the cards to be mailed to OHSIP and then you have clerks or machines who can sort the things out down there and pass them out to the various insurance companies, if you must.

This will save I do not know how many man-hours of doctors' and secretaries' time across the province. Would you consider bringing that in now, instead of a year from now?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Is it possible we could do this?

Dr. Aldis: We have considered this, and the decision of our experts and so forth is that this would just cause more trouble than it could possibly save in OHSIP itself. We would have to set up a separate register there and separate the files out ourselves, then mail them off to the designated agents. We just do not have the resources, considering the

fact that we are considering a new plan in a year's time, which should be taking the maximum resources that we can devote to it.

As I say, to divert resources to something like this, we decided that in fairness we would have to ask the doctors and nurses to continue doing this. But I think all of us would agree that the claim card as a method of input for the computer has many disadvantages and we hope that we can get rid of it sooner or later.

Mr. Shulman: Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest to the minister then that this is one more reason not to wait another year to bring all the designated agents in. Because this really just has wasted at least half a day a month in the doctor's office.

The other thing is more important and more serious. I think it is a legitimate matter of public concern as to what doctors are grossing. Up until now we have not been able to find out. I requested from you some weeks ago that you write to the various insurance companies about the 50-odd top doctors or dozen top doctors, so far as the computer is concerned, on what exactly they are getting from everybody put together in OHSIP. I understand that you have not been able to get that information. I would like to ask, why can you not get that information out of the insurance companies?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Can we get it, and how soon can we get it?

Dr. Aldis: I am sorry, I have missed part of the question.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I did not realize the member meant the top 50.

Mr. Shulman: The top two, the top 10, the top 20, whatever number you want.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Would there be a great problem slicing off the top—

Mr. Shulman: Ten.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —Ten, 20, I do not know, of what we have and making—

Dr. Aldis: Again, I cannot give you full details; it would take a fair amount of time, it would take a fair number of people. You see, the thing about the insurance industry is, until it entered OHSIP, it never paid anybody by doctor, it paid only to patients, and its accounts are all kept by subscriber. It would have to go back through all its subscribed accounts in order to track down what has been paid to various doctors.

Mr. Shulman: When I receive a cheque, as I do from London Life once a month, do they not keep a copy of that cheque? Do they not know how much they are paying me?

Dr. Aldis: London Life is one, I think, that could be done with fairly easy, but it still leaves 18 or 20 that would be very difficult.

Mr. Shulman: A half an hour or an hour ago one of you gentlemen was saying they all are now brought in, so they all send one cheque a month. In fact, the gentleman is flushing a little bit there; the one with the glasses on. I am not sure what his name is; he is the one who said it. Now if they all send one cheque a month, they must keep copies of the cheques.

Dr. Aldis: That may be a matter of a cheque perhaps, but the latest report I got from the director of our data processing centre was that this could only be done by manual operation in most of the designated agencies going back to the subscribers' accounts.

Mr. Shulman: Just a minute; if you, tomorrow morning, were to write to 23 insurance companies and say, "how much did you pay to Dr. Morton Shulman last month?" could they not answer the same day? I mean they surely have a copy of the cheque they send to me? Suppose I phone them up?

Dr. Aldis: I can tell you that for certain; they cannot do that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us test it and see how far we can go with the large agents.

Mr. Shulman: All right.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That would be London, the Metropolitan—

Dr. Charron: There are about six to eight companies, Mr. Chairman. There are about six to eight large companies and this would give you the bulk, really, of the coverage—

Mr. Shulman: We are still not going to have a really true figure. We are, again, going to be guessing. I cannot understand why National Life, which is the smallest, or London Life, which is the biggest, cannot look in the file and see what cheque they issued to any specific doctor last month.

Mr. Ben: You would not want to do that as an academic exercise, unless you firmly believe that there are—

Mr. Shulman: I have grave doubts about the income that is being brought in by a handful of doctors in this province. When you find that a doctor is earning over a quarter of a million dollars, I am going to have grave doubts about his ethics.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): Do you charge for phone calls?

Mr. Shulman: Never!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let me give you a run on what we can do with the large agents and how quickly for a certain number; you were saying 10.

Mr. Shulman: Yes; 10.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Then let us have a test on what we could do with all of them for 10. What I will do is simply write you in some way—

Mr. Shulman: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): I have two or three questions, Mr. Chairman. Firstly, to go back to the provision of dental services. I know that perhaps this should come under preventive medicine, but has the minister given consideration to make the use of fluoridation mandatory in order to alleviate the problem of supplying dental services?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I have not.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Will the minister consider this?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I will now. I have not though. It just has not been on my desk, that is all.

Mr. R. S. Smith: You are not going to indicate whether or not you are favourable to that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not at the moment. It is just not something that in the last couple of months has hit my desk. A lot of things have. It has been debated before and let us bring the debate up to date, at least within the department.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Okay; fine!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, I am just pondering. We have a lot of valuable talent here; is there any chance of us finishing OHSIP tonight?

Mr. W. Newman: Sure. I move we can.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I am just wondering. I think there are about eight people in this room.

Mr. Chairman: I would say about five or six, but that is up to the members here.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The taxpayers would be greatly benefited if—

Mr. Ferrier: I am willing to except my contribution.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That would mean we could go to OHSC tomorrow.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Providing you permit some questions that might have some bearing on this, which may be you or the deputy could answer.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have never quarrelled. I do not think—

Mr. B. Newman: There is no reason then, one could—

Mr. R. S. Smith: I have two more short questions. Okay? In regard to the billings of the medical profession; as I understand it it is now mandatory, or it has been mandatory, for a practitioner to give written notice to a patient that he is going to charge above that which his OHSIP covers. If he does not give this written notice the patient is not responsible for the payment of that part of the bill above the 90 per cent or above the OMA rate?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This all changed under the new system.

Mr. R. S. Smith: What happens under the new system?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If he is an OHSIP doctor he is an OHSIP doctor and 90 per cent becomes 100 per cent. If he is not an OHSIP doctor, then he notifies him and he is a direct-pay patient. So he is billed whatever he and the doctor as free citizens decide should be the bill.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Does he still have to give notice that he is going to charge him above the OHSIP rate or not?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, he gives him notice that he is billing him directly, and that means he can be below, at or above.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But am I correct in saying that up to now a patient who is billed

above the OHSIP rate and/or perhaps above the OMA rate, is it possible for that patient not to pay that bill or to refuse to make payment above what you cover under OHSIP if he has not given written notice of the intention of the doctor to charge above that rate?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not know that it has been tested. The doctor is supposed to notify. If he does not—I do not know if there is any statutory penalty. Is there any statutory penalty?

Dr. Aldis: No, there is no statutory penalty, Mr. Minister, and furthermore our present legislation does not require written notice. It just says he shall so advise the patient prior to rendering the service; so there is no necessity for written notice. We get quite a few questions about this from subscribers, and on several occasions I have gone out on a limb—I hope there was not a saw too handy—and suggested that the patient perhaps not pay the amount and see what happens. So far as I know, no such case has come to court, I understand that in each case the physician has been advised not to take the case to court; in other words, not to push collection further. But whether I am right in this I do not know.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That book is closed now.

Dr. Aldis: That is closed now.

Mr. R. S. Smith: It is closed except that there are lots of people who are carrying a lot of those large bills. I spoke to Dr. Aldis about this previously, particularly in reference to one practitioner, and it came to me that in one week three people had received billings of 60 to 70 per cent above the OMA rate from this one practitioner. Whether I did rightly or wrongly, after I spoke to Dr. Aldis and figured it out a bit for myself, I wrote the people back and told them to write to the doctor and tell him they had not received notice and they were not going to pay the bill.

I think there are a lot of cases like this across the province and perhaps if the minister is going to ask questions of the professional agent, as he did, perhaps he would advise these people what they should do about these bills too. I think that this is—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let me get some legal advice on that.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Next to that I have another question in regard to what the minister

said earlier in the provision of medical practitioners. He indicated that presently we are turning out 390 per year, and by 1975 we hope to increase that to 540, is it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Five hundred and fifty at a minimum.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Five hundred and fifty and perhaps to 700. Now, in order to do that, those people have to be entering into the first year of medicine this fall. Is the number of people who are being accepted this fall that much greater than what has been accepted over the past few years? In other words, you have to be almost doubling your registration this fall to what it was four years ago.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We get our recruits from other sources in first-year medicine. Dr. Reid?

Dr. Reid: The admissions this year will be based on the lower figure—500 by 1975. However, the other aspect of the feasibility of putting it up to 700 could involve a shortening of the medical course. The new school at McMaster is having a shorter course, but the actual admissions this year will reflect the output of 550. To go to the 700 other expedients would have to be used, including shorter medical courses.

Mr. R. S. Smith: And you made some reference that you hoped you did not blow your money on a new medical school. I think you made that reference when you were talking about the use of funds that are available to develop the numbers up to 700. So what you are really talking about is reaching those figures by cutting down the length of the course?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is a possibility.

Mr. R. S. Smith: And will there be an extension of the teaching within the hospitals? Is this a part of the programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes. We have new facilities coming in for teaching as well.

Mr. R. S. Smith: New additions to present facilities?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot name them but they do exist, yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: You are talking about what?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Physical facilities where teaching can be affected. Perhaps Dr. Reid again can give us—

Dr. Reid: All the medical schools have large new plant additions in various stages of development. There is the University of Western Ontario; the new medical sciences building at the University of Toronto is going into full utilization; the McMaster medical school will be opened very shortly and come into full stream; the development at Queen's University and the developments at Ottawa are in the pipeline to start in the immediate future.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Those additions of facilities, along with the shortening of the course, will produce 700 by 1975?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, 550 and perhaps 700.

Mr. R. S. Smith: By 550 and perhaps 700, if you can—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: One way you get to 700 is to spread your teaching load and ensure that you do not have any bottlenecks at the medical teaching level. Again, am I right?

Dr. Reid: It is a matter of getting the maximum mileage out of your available resources for teaching.

Mr. R. S. Smith: In other words, we would have more teaching hospitals?

Dr. Reid: We would be getting more out of the available resource of teaching manpower.

Mr. Chairman: Does that satisfy you, Mr. Smith? We have agreed Mr. Jessiman, Mr. Ferrier, Mr. Spence, Mr. Ben and Mr. Singer, in that order, would revert to some questions through the minister, but we would like to get these two votes on account of releasing some of these people.

On vote 704, we took items 1, 2 and 3 collectively. Shall vote 704 carry?

Mr. Ferrier: We thought you were going to give us the opportunity to sit a little later and question him. Is that not what the minister was suggesting?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I do not mind.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Jessiman has passed it up until tomorrow; he is satisfied anyway. Mr. Spence?

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, I just have two questions. In regard to the father and mother of a family who were killed, the grandmother takes the children, three children; of course, the grandmother has an income and she has to pay OHSIP, so she has to pay for the one boy, her grandson. He has no income, she is educating him and yet she has to pay his OHSIP. Is that possible? Is that the way it operates? These children are not her own, they are her grandchildren, but she has to pay the OHSIP of her grandson.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And she gets no dependant's—

Mr. Spence: No, she has no dependant's. She is keeping her grandson and yet she has to pay his OHSIP. She has no income, she is putting him through school, and it is unusual that when she is keeping him—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. McKillop can perhaps—this is the structure of the family without the parents?

Mr. Spence: That is right.

Mr. H. I. McKillop (Medical Services Insurance Division): I think, Mr. Chairman, to use the minister's words here, I think this is a local parents' situation, where in point of fact she could have the child covered at no cost. I think that if you submitted details to the plan we could take care of this.

Mr. Spence: He would be covered?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The point being that when you are playing the role of the parent, you are in the same position as a parent, under the scheme.

Mr. Spence: I see. There is no way of getting out of paying for his OHSIP?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is no different whether it is the grandmother or the deceased father, if you explain that the grandmother is playing the role the father was previously filling.

Mr. Spence: That is right!

Another question is in regard to rabies; we have a number of cases. I had two mothers who came to me last night with two cases where their pet cats had scratched a number of children in their families, so they went to the hospital and got rabies vaccine injections. Anyway, with one mother the bill was \$120, while for the other mother it was \$90. She is covered by OHSIP, yet they told her that

because she went to the hospital she could not be covered; she should have gone to her family doctor, and the doctor would have been paid by OHSIP.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If you would give us the facts on that, we will get you an answer, because that does not make sense.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Minister, with regard to OHSIP, sometimes it falls on an unfortunate family; take these cases of \$120 and \$90. Did you ever give any consideration to have that included in OHSIP for these injections, and these vaccines, because in general the whole family has to take these shots when the pet cat or the pet dog scratches or bites.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have considered it, but—

Mr. Spence: It makes me wonder, Mr. Minister, because in The Department of Agriculture—and to be fair, it is no criticism against you—when one of the livestock—a cow, or a horse—is bitten by a fox, and the veterinarian says the cow or the horse has to be destroyed, The Department of Agriculture pays for the livestock. Yet, in The Department of Health here when an individual or a person is involved, they have to pay the whole shot.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is a question of us covering the whole field. In OHSIP we pay for the service.

Dr. Aldis: I do not understand this, Mr. Chairman. We would pay for injections which were given abdominally. We pay for the injections and, as far as I know, the vaccine is free from the Connaught Labs; it should not cost them a nickel.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Rabies vaccine is free.

Dr. Aldis: Rabies vaccine is free, and OHSIP will pay for the injections.

Mr. Spence: I will give you the details, is that all right?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Right.

Mr. Ferrier: I have three short questions. For a person to qualify for premium-free OHSIP, or for premium assistance, they have to report their taxable income of the previous year. I understand there was some discussion that OHSIP did not have access to the income tax department's figures to check to make sure that the figures that were on the applications were in fact the right figures. Has

there been any arrangement worked out between the provincial government and The Department of Revenue, or do you just have to take the person's word and that is it?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: They say they will not give us the figures.

Mr. Ferrier: And I suppose you do not know whether you are being gypped by certain people or not?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: All we know is that the federal government will not give us the figures.

Mr. Ferrier: It is a problem, I know.

Another short question. There was some criticism of the OHSIP, and I believe it was OHSC or HIRB, about the computers that you had. You had two or three small computers, one large computer could probably do the job of the whole bunch and your computers were incompatible.

Have you been able to resolve that, or will you be able to resolve that by July 1972?

Dr. Aldis: Mr. Chairman, we not only have three, we have four. OHSC has one; the former Windsor Medical Services, the south-western Ontario branch has one; we have two in Toronto, one of which is an IBM and which is the old PSI file. That is totally incompatible with the old OMSIP file, which is on a Honeywell computer, so there is no way they can be put together.

So the incompatibility at the moment is simply unavoidable. There is nothing we can do about it. It is planned on July 1, 1972, that the total file will be on a single computer.

Mr. Ferrier: This is very good news. The final question is, how many of the doctors who have gone to these outlying areas to practice have, in fact, collected something of the \$26,000 guaranteed annual income?

Dr. Copeman: Mr. Chairman, this programme is only a year and a half old and our first contracts are just coming through now. We have three statements in from three doctors and we made a very small payment to one doctor, and two other doctors will get some payment. The other doctors who are on the programme and under contract—I really do not know until their contract year is up how we will fare with them. But as I say, we have to run a year until we really know.

Mr. Ferrier: You are not really sure of how much of an incentive the \$26,000 figure really is?

Dr. Aldis: Yes, the \$26,000 is an incentive, particularly with young doctors who have never practiced before, or with doctors who come into this country and have never practiced here before—they really do not know how much they can make, or what practice conditions are here. The \$26,000 is a real sort of a crutch or an incentive to them. They know they are going to make this much money and it certainly does attract them to come in and practice here.

To the old-fashioned practitioner, perhaps in a practice for five or 10 years in the province and who knows what he can do, perhaps our establishment-of-practice grant is a better incentive to him. But I do not think that there is any doubt the \$26,000 has been a factor in bringing some doctors to our programme.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It will probably have to be increased.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, before we end this particular aspect of the estimates I just want to cover about four points that were raised by other members.

I think there was an error in assuming that Mr. Singer or anyone else was suggesting that we keep out foreign doctors. That was not Mr. Singer's point. His point was, as I saw it, to the effect that because we allow 10 per cent of our enrolment in our university medical schools to be people from outside of Canada, those people he mentioned who have a very high academic standing could not enrol in our universities.

Mr. Minister, nobody could for one minute suggest that we keep out foreign doctors because in 1970 of the registrations on the register of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, 388 out of 928 were from outside of Canada. In addition, Mr. Minister, 200 were graduates from schools in other than the Province of Ontario.

This meant that over 41 per cent of the physicians whose names were added to the register operated by the College of Physicians and Surgeons—in other words who were licensed to practise—41 per cent came from outside of Canada. If we were to increase this output by 200 as Dr. Reid is suggesting, and finally reach a figure of 700, even then at the present rate 34 per cent of our supply

of physicians would still be coming from outside Canada.

This is not what Mr. Singer is saying. He was saying that it would appear that we punish our own highly skilled youngsters by denying them access to medical schools and, instead, we are giving those places to people who come from outside of this country. There is nothing in the material available which shows that that 10 per cent which came into our schools from outside of Canada had standards higher than the ones we rejected.

In other words, some people believe that the 10 per cent who are enrolled in the University of Toronto medical school, coming from out of the province, may have had an entrance proficiency higher than 85 per cent. That is not so. As I pointed out, Dr. Chute said that because we have a sort of rule of thumb, and we allow up to 10 per cent of our enrolment to be from out of the province, "highly qualified people"—and this is in quotation marks because these were his exact words—"were refused admission this year"—that is, in 1970—"from receiving training as doctors."

I might point out that surely if all the doctors from out of the province who were trained, went back to their country of origin, perhaps one would not quarrel so much. But we know, from past debates in the House, this session and the previous session, this Parliament and the previous Parliament, that a good number after they complete their training here desire to remain here. Fine, you say, that way we acquire doctors that were trained here. But again I point out to you that the ones that we did train as doctors, who did come from out of the province may not necessarily have the same high qualifications for the practice of medicine as the ones we rejected. This is what I find rather deplorable.

I do not know what the outcome of reducing the course from five years to four years is going to have on the quality of our medical profession. I do not know if anybody here has looked into it that deeply. I rather am skeptical about it, because it is becoming a more complicated profession every day. A doctor, I dare say, today probably has to know twice or three times as much as one had to know at the turn of the century. I just cannot see cramming that stuff into him in four years now instead of five.

The next thing I want to mention is Mr. Jessiman's business of those credit cards for services. He suggests that you could present a

credit card which would have your blood type on there, allergies, and so on. I cannot conceive of a competent doctor in other than an extreme emergency situation giving a blood transfusion to any patient without himself taking the trouble to determine the blood characteristics of that particular patient. It is like searching titles. Perhaps you are more familiar with that. It is a fool of a lawyer that relies on somebody else's search.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This was an example by way of an approach.

Mr. Ben: A person could be brought in in an emergency and have on his person a credit card other than his own and it would have blood types on it, allergies, and so on, and that person could get the improper treatment and just die. But one of the biggest worries, Mr. Chairman, is this suggestion that we set up a programme of auditing all these accounts.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not all the accounts.

Mr. Ben: All right, the accounts of the other people. To begin with I hate empire building, and with all due respect to your department, HIRB was a waste of the taxpayers' money. It originally was instituted because we had two non-complementary systems—OHSC and OMSIP—and the idea of instituting this Health Insurance Registration Board was that one department would be charged with the responsibility of collecting the premiums for these two services.

Now what is going to happen in 1972. According to your own statement we are guaranteed—this is one of the words you used over here—that in 1972, July 1 or some date, we are going to have but one premium to cover both services.

That will mean that HIRB will factually become redundant. But I have never in my experience in politics—and it goes beyond my elected term in this Legislature and beyond my term on municipal councils—recall people being let go when their position became redundant under circumstances such as this. I recall when Metro came into being it was supposed to cut down on the number of people that were required to operate the services in this area and yet when the Goldenberg report came down it specifically provided that no one was supposed to lose his job.

I rather suspect that if we set up an auditing system to audit the accounts of the insurance companies for that very short period of time, and I suggest Mr. Minister that the

lead time alone would be considerable—six months to nine months—that we would be setting up a department which we then could not do away with. That is one of the main worries.

Secondly, I think most gentlemen sitting around here know that in order to catch malfeasors you do not have to audit every account, that you can scientifically select a random sampling. I do not know why they use that phrase, but they say a scientific random sampling. If it is random sampling it is supposed to be random sampling, but these people who do these things insist on saying that it is scientific random sampling. You can be just as effective in catching these malfeasors as you are if you audit every single account.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We never suggested that.

Mr. Ben: I just hope that you are not going to be talked into setting up another little empire that is going to be soaking the public in perpetuity with very little results. In law, a judge would call that a fishing expedition and deny it. And that is the sum and substance of my contribution at this late hour.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 704, complete on items 1, 2 and 3 carry?

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask some questions but I will ask them tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman: Shall it carry? Carried.

Vote 704 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 705 item 1, 2, 3 and 4 in its entirety carry?

Vote 705 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Now it is agreed that we will sit again at two o'clock in the Legislature. Mr. Jessiman and Mr. Singer will be the first two speakers.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, if you will pardon my being so presumptuous as to ask, why should they be the first two speakers,

unless they are speaking on the new vote; otherwise why should we have carried this vote and then go back tomorrow and permit it to be opened again?

Mr. Chairman: I asked Mr. Jessiman before. He said he would only have one question.

Mr. Ben: Then I would suggest that we not carry the vote. You make up your mind, Mr. Chairman, either we carry it or we do not carry it.

Mr. Chairman: It is carried as far as I am concerned, but I think in fairness to these men tomorrow, they do not have to speak on the subject, they can speak on another.

Mr. Ben: Then we do not carry it.

Mr. Ferrier: If they have anything under these subjects let them either discuss it in the report back or with the minister and his staff privately. But if we are going to carry these votes, let us carry them and be done with it.

Mr. Ben: I want your assurance Mr. Chairman, that they will not be able to re-open and discuss these items; otherwise we will not consent to the vote being carried.

Mr. Chairman: I am not asking that. I am asking that they come in though, because they left tonight with the understanding that they would be able to speak first of all on another item.

Mr. Ferrier: On OHSC.

Mr. Chairman: That is right.

Mr. Ben: Now what are you going to do, Mr. Chairman, about the other two gentlemen?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Jessiman I know only had one question, and I am sure he would be satisfied to withdraw. I do not know what the other man had to say at all.

The committee adjourned at 10:50 o'clock p.m.

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Estimates, Department of Health

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

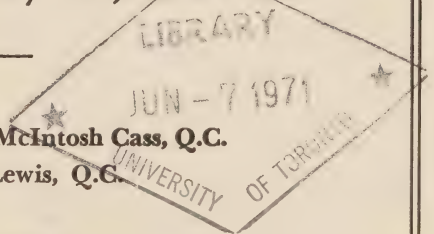
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Wednesday, May 26, 1971

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1971

The committee met at 2 o'clock, p.m. in the legislative chamber; Mr. O. F. Villeneuve in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (concluded)

Mr. Chairman: We are dealing with vote 706, The Department of Health, Ontario Hospitals programme, page 118. Mr. Jessiman, Mr. Singer, Mr. Ferrier and Mr. Ben will speak in that order.

Mr. J. Jessiman (Fort William): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The function of the OHSC is something that I do not understand completely. I would like to question the minister in that we have a crippled children's treatment centre in Thunder Bay and they have made application to build a domicile for out-of-town crippled children so that they can service the whole of northwestern Ontario. I believe this is the function of the OHSC who are with us today. Is this correct? Is this one of their functions?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence (Minister of Health): I think it relates to the degree to which the particular institution is involved in rehabilitation as distinct, probably, from straight custodial work—Mr. Martin?

Mr. S. W. Martin (Ontario Hospital Services Commission): The particular project to which the member refers at Thunder Bay has a relationship to the institutional care facilities in that area and therefore is being developed and funds for the portion that will come from government are involved in the amount set aside for grants for institutions in this section of the vote we are dealing with now.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps the member could expand on his question.

Mr. Jessiman: Yes, I will; I will enlarge on it as we go along. The one thing I want to draw to your attention, of course, is that right next door to this facility, this crippled children's treatment centre—when I say right

next door, within 100 feet of it—is the Fort William sanatorium, an active bed hospital, or whatever name you give it. Right next to it, on the same grounds, is the Westmount hospital for the chronically ill; and, still on the same grounds, Grandview old age hospital. Of recent date—I just want to take you back to some three years ago—was the enlargement to Grandview hospital of some 50 or 75 beds at a cost of \$1.5 million.

In the Fort William sanatorium, I should say, there are approximately 350 bed spaces and 150 of them are vacant. This is a terrible waste of space and money. The need is great for the bed space and I think it is time we re-evaluated our terms of reference as to what qualifications an active hospital should have to allow patients in to use the facility.

There are three old-age homes in Thunder Bay and there is a need for more bed space there. On the ground floor of the sanatorium is what I refer to as a penal wing. A full floor of one wing is devoted to one patient who is tubercular, who has been transferred from some part of eastern Ontario and is under constant guard 24 hours a day for committing some minor offence. After he was committed, TB was discovered in him and he has the full wing to himself. I think that this again should be investigated. The need, I do not think, exists any longer. I think there should be some changes here.

I would like it to go on record and read you a part of an editorial from one of the Lakehead papers of this weekend. It says:

Just as shocking is an acute shortage of beds for chronic illness in the two Thunder Bay homes for the aged which are supposed to be for the people who have given their contribution to life and now wish to relax in their declining years. Seventy per cent of the beds are taken up by chronic patients, a figure far out of line with the five per cent suggested by government.

The whole thing backs up, and the three active hospitals have a backlog of from 30 to 50 patients at peak times who should be transferred to Westmount chronic convalescent hospital, but Westmount is always filled and there is no place for them to go.

Chronic cases in the homes for aged are not covered by hospitalization and many have to pay their own way which is completely unreasonable. The city pays for welfare recipients and this goes on.

I think that the time has long passed when you should do a complete evaluation of the existing facilities and use them to the best advantage and not leave 150 vacant bed spaces as recorded in the paper. I think it is a terrible waste. I think something should be done about it. I would advise or suggest to the minister that someone with authority go to Thunder Bay and if crippled children are being deprived of the treatment that is available for them, for the whole of north-western Ontario, then let us make a sanatorium available to them. There is lots of space; the treatment centre is there. All it would needs is domiciliary care, bed care, and I am sure that something should be able to be arranged from your department.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Jessiman, I am advised that this is exactly what we are doing at the moment. A study of the roles of the different institutions is under way, sponsored by the commission, but I will ask Mr. Martin to give further detail on that.

Mr. Martin: The point the member for Fort William is making is the basis for the necessity of structuring the roles of the various existing institutions there; also to sort out the problems referred to in his reference to the chronic illness because basically there has been a problem here in which there also has been some backup into the hospital system of people who probably might be cared for in a type of institution that would be more equivalent to a nursing home. Now the dimensions of this have been opened up with the recent announcement in the House here of intentions in that regard, and therefore this is all being looked at to come to the kind of conclusion that Mr. Jessiman, I think, is pointing toward in his remarks.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: What kind of a time dimension are we dealing with?

Mr. Jessiman: I would point out to Mr. Martin that these studies have been going on for as long as I can remember. One was completed two years ago and now they are having a study to check the values of the studies.

I think it is just about time we had a little action and the hell with the studies. Let us send someone there with authority to

move and get the 130 or 150 bed spaces filled. We have the patients for them.

Mr. Martin: Dr. Twiss advises me that the time limit on this now is somewhere around two months.

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished, Mr. Jessiman?

Mr. Jessiman: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Singer.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, I wanted to follow up a point that we started on yesterday and I want to deal with another matter when I am through with this, that relates to the production of new doctors through our medical schools. Now, if my understanding of the figures is correct, we would have—what?—about 8,000 to 10,000 doctors in Ontario at the moment?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not all practising. How many practising do we have?

There are 8,000 actively engaged in medicine.

Mr. Singer: In medicine?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And 10,000 by profession in the province.

Mr. Singer: And using that 8,000 and dividing it into seven million, or whatever our population is, that is how you come up with your ratio of one to 780, or whatever the particular ratio is. As I further understand it, we are presently producing out of our medical schools some 350 new doctors a year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Three hundred and ninety is the figure.

Mr. Singer: Three hundred and ninety, all right. If my rough arithmetic is anywhere near correct, the 390 is not nearly enough to take care of the natural attrition by death, by retirement, by emigration and so on, and we need an additional supply of doctors. How many doctors do we need a year to keep that ratio up?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: To keep our ratio up? I can only give you the four-year figure and that is that our ratio will be adequate or at the same level if in four years we are producing 550.

Mr. Singer: Five hundred and fifty?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The 550 which I mentioned yesterday—

Mr. Singer: Yes, some of which you hope will come from McMaster University when their facilities are expanded, is that correct?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Gradually McMaster will pick up—

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Yes, that includes McMaster.

Mr. Singer: So we are short 25 per cent then in our capacity? If we have 390 coming out of our schools and we need 550, we are short 150, which is better than 25 per cent. It is about—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, again I do not know whether you were attending the committee but there will be immigration, but it is dropping to a degree, while, at the same time, to a greater degree, our output of doctors is increasing.

Again as I mentioned, the ability to train doctors within that same four-year period can, with special attention, be increased to something over 700.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, for the information of the hon. member, the figures given last night by myself were that in 1970, of the 928 that were added to the register of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the Province of Ontario, 388 came from outside of Canada, 340 graduated from Ontario schools, and 200 from schools in other provinces.

I thought that might help the hon. member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: It does indeed and I thank my colleague for that information.

What bothers me obviously, Mr. Chairman, in relation to the two specific cases that I mentioned last night—the information on one I gave to the minister and the information on the second one is coming to me—is that if we have to depend on the United Kingdom and India, Pakistan and Israel, and whatever other country there is, to produce our doctors for us, when in fact we have outstanding students emerging out of our own educational system, is there not something wrong with the way we are running the ball game—something very seriously wrong?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, and as I said we do not have to depend on them. That is the way it has been. What we need to do—and I admitted this quite candidly yesterday—

is to increase and continue increasing the number of students we train, no matter what number of immigrant doctors come from not only the countries you have named, but of course the other provinces of Canada. The background is that on a rising level of internal production running on the figures that I have mentioned—300-odd, 500-odd—Dr. Reid advised yesterday that we will be able to maintain our level, but at the moment I think your point is sound and I cannot really quarrel with it.

It is not a question of policies so much as a situation that has existed over the last few years. You know, in years past—I am jumping back five or 10 years—we were not forced to have a crash programme with regard to our medical schools because we had the luxury of immigration helping it. Now that luxury from our point of view is not expected to be available to us in anything like the same degree as the years past, so we can match it, I am advised, with the kind of figures I mentioned.

Mr. Singer: Well, whether we regard the ability to attract doctors from foreign jurisdictions as a luxury or not, we have been very lucky to have had them. But in the meantime what bothers me to a very great extent is that there must be several hundred young people who have emerged out of our Ontario educational system each year, who probably would like to go to medical school, who are unable to find places because of the abnormally high standards that now must exist because of the limited number of spaces.

Throw on top of that the statement yesterday from one of your officials to the effect that our ratio of doctors per thousand of population compares favourably with most other satisfactory jurisdictions in the world. But there is this terrible maldistribution, and some of the figures that were read yesterday to the committee indicate in some of the remote areas of the province there is a terrible maldistribution.

Would it not be in our interests, our selfish, provincial Ontario interests, to search out these students who apparently have all of the qualifications except that there just is not the place for them and to try and get them to a medical school in some other jurisdiction? Could this not be one of the incentives?

Because if we are going to lose all these bright students who have a bent toward medicine and replace them by Indian students, Indian doctors or United Kingdom doctors, or what have you, would we not

make a better investment in our people in whom we have already invested a great deal of money by finding spaces for them, perhaps, in an American jurisdiction, or an English jurisdiction and so forth?

Could this not be one of the incentives that would attract these people, when they come back, to go to the more remote areas? It would serve two purposes; you would be able to doctor these more remote areas where the ratio is so bad and secondly, you would not be losing out of Ontario, perhaps forever, this group of very brilliant students who have a bent towards medicine.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: A programme such as the member suggests, of course, would have no quicker impact than the present programme, because they would not be available to us until their four or five years' training had been completed.

Mr. Singer: But the minister is going to lose them completely if he does not do something about them now. They are going to find their way into some other field, because if they cannot get into medicine in their early twenties, when you have additional capacity in your schools, it is unlikely that too many of them are going to hang around waiting for the construction of more facilities in our various medical schools. They will be doing something else, which is sad.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us assess the thought of extra-jurisdictional training. I expect that the member will find the problems that exist in Ontario mirror to a great extent those in other Canadian medical schools and I would expect that this is also the case in the United States.

Have we done any research on this Dr. Charron? Has anyone raised this question of extra-territorial training as a viable programme?

Dr. K. C. Charron (Deputy Minister): This has not been suggested, Mr. Minister. It was considered that it would be preferable to build up our resources in the province to do this type of thing.

I know of only one country that, quite a number of years ago, adopted this method. I think it was Norway which had people trained in medical schools outside the country. This was the only country that adopted it and they adopted it because of an extreme shortage of medical personnel and the fact that they wanted to get results before they could expand their own resources.

Mr. Singer: When you keep in mind the figures that the member for Humber just gave—that of the 988 added to the register last year in Ontario of which 388 were trained outside the jurisdiction of Ontario—and when you add to that, it is my guess—and I have no real knowledge—I would guess there must have been at least 200 eminently qualified students who would have found a place, had more places been available, one might think there is something obviously wrong.

We spend a lot of money in Ontario bringing these young people to the stage in their education at which, under normal circumstances, they would have been admitted to a medical school. And then to lose them, and have to replace them with 388 people from outside the country—and I am not suggesting for one moment that we stop foreign doctors from coming in, but I suggest that we have to look to ourselves first.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think the only commentary that I could add to this would be that, in our spending over recent years, we have, as a priority, had a great deal of investment made in our health science centres, in our teaching facilities, plant, equipment, and this kind of thing—perhaps to a degree where there is room for criticism here.

Indeed, there was a highly critical article last winter written by an Ontario doctor—le Riche is it?—which was not totally acceptable as an article. But his description of the situation did underline something that occurred and that was a bias in favour of setting up our facilities when we might have, with lesser facilities, have improved our year-to-year output at this time. That is the only commentary I can add.

Mr. Singer: All right then, all I can say then is, having laid the problem before the minister and having got a somewhat positive reaction, that it is a problem that worries a lot of us who have had the kind of contact that I have had and that, with this warning, the next time we look at his estimates or maybe even before we look at his estimates again, or if we ever see him again in that seat, it is something that is going to continue to—

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): He would like to take that seat. He tried to get that seat.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South): Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, sir, I have listened to your previous deliberations

in this respect. I am wondering if the committee has had a report on the results of the incentive programme that was introduced, possibly some three to four years ago, in which guaranteed remuneration was given to doctors who would locate in some of the remote areas of the province? If this report has been given, I will not ask for a repeat of it. If it has been given, fine.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, we had a lengthy discussion last night—

Mr. Reuter: I apologize, Mr. Minister, forget it then.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We are on hospitals this afternoon, and I would judge that the leeway being given to Mr. Singer relates directly or indirectly to his absence in the last period when the vote was being discussed yesterday. Otherwise, our job today is to deal with OHSC.

Mr. Singer: The other point that I want to raise with the minister is a matter that I dealt with in a confidential letter I wrote him dealing with matters of medical negligence which touches, to some extent, on some of the discussions yesterday.

The reason the letter was confidential was that it dealt with a matter that is before me in my capacity as a lawyer and I am not going to give any of the facts of that particular case. But I wonder when the minister was talking about new legislation, what sort of things he might have in mind in allowing persons who believe they have some kind of a complaint relating to medical negligence to more properly pursue that complaint than they now can do?

In other words, some of the difficulties I have encountered are related to the limitations periods in The Hospitals Act and The Medical Act. They are far too short and they are unequal, one is six months and one is one year. This can cause great damage.

The second point that I have encountered is the very serious difficulty in finding, quickly or readily or on any meaningful basis, access to knowledgeable people in a particular medical field, particularly when it comes to an obscure disease. The ability to go somewhere else for an independent opinion is very, very limited.

The third point that concerns me very much is the ready availability of hospital records and the assertions that are made on occasion—and I know of one specific occasion on which they were made, notwithstanding

the recent amendments to The Evidence Act, and the fact that there is availability for remedy in the courts and the courts will give orders—that prominent doctors in prominent hospitals have said, “We are not going to give up our records. Let them go and get a court order if they want to.” Why this reluctance to make available to the patient his hospital records, at his direction? Why is this?

A further point—and I raised it in my comments to the minister—was, should there not be some kind of an assessment board, either through the College of Physicians and Surgeons, being some of their people perhaps with lay people advising, perhaps with medical referees, that sort of thing, so that in each instance there need not be the threat of long and complicated and most frequently unsuccessful litigation?

I do not know if the minister noticed an article in one of the weekend papers written by Professor Linden, where he was setting out some of the difficulties he is aware of insofar as pursuing medical negligence matters is concerned, or noticed a programme on channel 6 on Sunday night where Professor Linden and a prominent New York lawyer—I have forgotten his name—were discussing some of these things, such as the difference in the laws in the United States and the difference in the laws in this jurisdiction.

I am certainly not suggesting that our lawyers should be able to take on this kind of case on a percentage basis as is done in most jurisdictions—I think that is very bad for the cause of administration of justice—but the ability to pursue these things, the ability to locate first of all, and then get competent medical advice. Legal aid has done a great deal in this field, particularly if one knows what one is looking for, and one can appeal to legal aid along these channels.

But there is just so much to be desired and the ability to succeed in one of these suits, particularly when one recognizes the system that the doctors have set up quite justifiably to protect themselves, the medical protective scheme in which they each pay \$35 a year. The medical protective scheme is a very efficient group. They operate with some of the most capable lawyers in Ontario.

They divided Ontario up into several sections and they have been able to train a leading lawyer of a leading firm in each section of the province to handle these matters and these matters only, and I think the record of success in these things as against any practising doctor is so minimal that one must

genuinely wonder whether or not we have, for a patient who might have been injured, proper machinery available to explore whether or not he was in fact injured by negligence and then whether or not there is going to be some kind of remedy available to him.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Firstly, from the legislative point of view, we will be coming up with legislation rationalizing the periods of limitations with respect to the healing arts. With regard to the profession itself, we will be coming forward, as I mentioned yesterday, with legislation giving new powers to the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Our discussion yesterday related to medical audit and financial audit. I hope as part of that legislation, or accompanying it very soon, will be the establishment of a tribunal—let us call it the Health Disciplines Regulation Board—which, as I have suggested in the past, should be a lay board to hear appeals from a much more active and activated discipline and assessment committee of the college itself. From there again, as I have mentioned before, there will have to be a stream into the courts of law.

This will go a long way in dealing with questions of negligence and malpractice as a whole, and although I have not looked that deeply into it, one can picture the powers of such a board as encompassing the production of documents, of evidence and of expert witnesses. I would think it would be difficult under some circumstances for it to function without very broad powers of overall inquiry. Again that will ameliorate the overall situation.

With the evidence flowing more freely and again responsively through a board like that, one would picture that when a lawyer had to decide whether to go into the courts of law, his decision would be based on a really top-notch assessment—

Mr. Singer: That is the point.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence:—of the material, the evidence, and the facts as a whole.

Insofar as the question of hospital records is concerned, I recall, as the hon. member does, when the amendments of two or three years ago went through, that we liberalized—excuse the expression—

Mr. Singer: It is a good word. You need not be ashamed.

Mr. Reuter: Take it easy.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence:—the availability or accessibility of records. But I cannot go

beyond that. Perhaps Dr. Charron or Mr. Martin could give the arguments that restrain us. As a matter of policy they were discussed, but I have forgotten the arguments that restrained us from having even freer accessibility in relation to hospital documents.

Mr. Martin: Mr. Minister, section 41 of the regulations under The Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Inquiries Act does give fairly liberal access to the records, but the question of the individual and his record in a sense is permissive in that the board may permit these records to be available to a person who presents a written request signed by the patient; that is fairly broad.

The point that comes into consideration here is that these medical records are very important to the management of the patient's illness; in the sense that these are then committed to paper, if they are actually wide open to everybody there is a problem involved in that these contain very personal references to the individual himself. If they were accessible to everybody, there would be really very little entered into the record as far as the professional people are concerned, I would think.

The problem here is finding a happy medium where you can almost guarantee to the individual that not everybody and his brother is going to have access to his medical records; to give some guarantee to the people who are preparing the records, particularly physicians, that what they put in there is their business between them and the patient in a sense; this is the point that the member has made.

We have had one or two instances come to our attention where there has been some suggestion that despite the Act, the formalities have been gone through and this has been refused. The only thing we can do is take it up immediately with the hospital. I think at that point, having of course interjected ourselves into it, the record is produced very quickly because we can interpret that this is within the Act and the regulations and this is told to them.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I am very interested to hear these observations, but I think they really miss the significance of the point. I do not think that Mr. Lawrence's medical records should be made available to me at my request. On the other hand, if I am acting for Mr. Lawrence, who feels he might have a grievance and he has given me his authorization to examine his records, then the hospital board still may permit. Now

the privilege, if it exists, exists for the patient; it exists for Mr. Lawrence who is the patient.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There is another part of public policy here—and that is, it is public policy and I think it is supported, that the records built up by a hospital and its staff should be as broad in scope and as frank as possible. So let us take the roughest position. You demand your thing and it says—Vern Singer is in a state of advanced paranoia and a renowned malingerer.

Mr. Singer: You would probably get some of your colleagues to agree with you, too.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You can see that that would happen once or twice and then the people on staff, medical and supportive, simply would not be putting that stuff into the record. You have got to see that another part of public interest—and I think medical interest and your own personal interest—is to see that those who are treating you can report their open opinions as frankly and as freely as possible.

Mr. Singer: That sounds very fine in theory, but you come back to patient X, the person for whom I am presently acting, who says “I think I have a grievance, and, in order to ascertain whether or not I have a grievance, I want my lawyers to be able to look at the papers that hospital Y has in regard to me.”

Surely there can be nothing more obvious and logical than that? There should not be any permissive discretion to be exercised on the part of the hospital. Because how is this man going to be able to ascertain, or how is he going to be able to get competent advice, in order to enable him to ascertain what is wrong with him? What kind of treatment has he had—has it been good, bad or indifferent and so on?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Would you be satisfied that instead of having the cumbersome of a court order, presumably a tribunal of the type I have described with a peremptory power of review and order as to documents, would perhaps meet both points that we have been discussing?

Mr. Singer: Perhaps so, but what particularly aggravates me is in this particular case I am talking about—before it came to me, another lawyer who had been handling it was told in no uncertain terms by the man in charge of records at this hospital, “You may have a right to get them, but you are going to have to go to court and get an order before

we will give them to you.” I think that is just absolutely inexcusable.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It puts the hospital in the position of producing, or being forced to produce, evidence of its own negligence, perhaps.

Mr. Singer: That is the point. One always has to be suspicious, as we sometimes get about you and your colleagues. If you will not produce the files, then we imagine absolutely the worst. If the hospitals will not produce the files and if we cannot examine those things when the patient has authorized—I do not want any right to look at files in general—as a lawyer, when I am commissioned by a client to examine a particular matter, I should be entitled on his behalf to look at his records, without any question of doubt.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The question is to change, as has been suggested, the arbiter from an essentially unqualified judge, certainly at the first level, to some kind of a tribunal with supportive expertise that could arbitrate these one by one.

Mr. Singer: What happens, I am sure, in the minds of some hospital people is “Let us make it as difficult as possible and hopefully that nuisance will go away.” If there are enough hurdles placed along the way and if there is not enough money to properly finance this kind of an investigation, very often the inquirer can get so discouraged that he gives up in disgust.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: You still need an arbiter.

Mr. Singer: Yes. Yes indeed you do.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There has been a fair degree of concern about the health care delivery system and the various kinds of beds in the hospitals not having been adequately enough planned, that certain areas are over-abundant in various kinds of beds, while other areas have few beds at all. A great deal of thought has been given about regionalization of hospital facilities, and I understand that this is going on now in various parts of the province on a voluntary basis. I know in my own riding that a study is being conducted there by a firm called Peat, Marwick and some other name—

Mr. Ben: Mitchell.

Mr. Ferrier:—Mitchell, to discover the needs for active treatment and chronic care, and convalescent and probably old-age-home beds, and an examination of the facilities in the area, to come up with certain recommendations. I understand that in the minister's own area of Ottawa there is a voluntary association now and he has made some statements to the effect that he is going to implement a regional council there as the first one in Ontario, and probably move into other areas as time permits.

I think that the concept is a very worthy concept and I think that it is needed very much because there has been a maldistribution of services throughout the province. I think that it could be a money-saving device in the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, or in the hospitals as a whole, because if a certain area decides they want to build a new hospital perhaps there are sufficient beds there now of the nature that they want and they could be discouraged from building, perhaps they need another kind of hospital bed or chronic care bed or something like this.

I think this is going to make a good deal more sense, and probably the minister had this in mind when he introduced his amendments or his proposal to undertake the cost of nursing home care in the next year. I would support these regional councils in a very full fashion. It was suggested by Jean Howarth from the articles that she wrote that a regional council could be set up and an inventory made of the kinds of beds available, and the regional director could be the person used to direct the particular patients necessary to the particular kind of bed that he should be in.

It would probably need some educational work done by this regional council in that area to get the co-operation, not only of the medical people, but of the patients and the patients' families themselves. But I wonder if you are going to leave this on a voluntary basis, or if you are going to make it on an obligatory basis to make sure that adequate and proper planning of facilities is done and that there is not an unnecessary duplication taking place and that the right kind of bed can be used for the right kind of service in an area?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The commission itself, of course, has been deeply involved in rationalizing hospital services in regions for many years and its work is complementary to part of the increased activity at the local

level, the health council level. I will ask Mr. Martin to speak to this question. The question of whether or not these councils, whether they be regional or district, having been compulsorily set up and given statutory powers of regulation and this kind of thing, is not, I think, an immediate one. I think it is one that may have to be made down the road a piece.

We are going along quite well as far as I can see in a number of areas, where on the voluntary basis people are accepting the philosophy of regionalization as it applies to hospital care and indeed to health care delivery generally. I do not think the point of compulsory organization and statutory support for these councils will be reached until we rationalize our whole system of health care delivery; until we are in a position to look at a region or a district and say, "Yes, you shall have control now over a total system," which will be one, of course, that we will have beginning only next year, running through home care, nursing homes and right up to the active treatment hospital itself.

When all the ingredients on the ground are there and roughly balanced, I think that the question you raise as to a fixed and compulsory programme becomes appropriate. Mr. Martin, would you comment on this question, please?

Mr. Martin: The element of the balance in the institutional facilities in an area obviously has been of major interest to our commission, as the minister said, for some years.

In actual fact, in this province at the moment we have had certain guidelines that we have been working to. Some of you are familiar with them. There are about five active treatment beds to 1,000 of population. An additional one bed for 1,000, for chronic illness care—that is the acute phases of chronic illness care—certain added features for rehabilitation and active psychiatric treatment which brings it up to about roughly 6.5 beds per 1,000.

Across the province at the moment we have about 6.5 but there are still certain areas which are above this and certain are below, but the influence that has been exerted in this has brought some rationalization in it. It also, of course, brings about the problems that have been mentioned—that is, when certain people want to add certain facilities, we have to say to them, "Really, it is not active treatment facilities you need, but probably the chronic illness facilities."

I am sure the studies the member was mentioning have more to do with the question of role studies because, basically, certain of the institutions are going to have to change the traditional role they have played. Therefore, it is not the necessity of studying the beds; it is the necessity of studying or determining the role that these various institutions are playing. These are coming along in a number of areas of the province at the present time.

These will be, as the minister says, complementary to—and a very deciding input to—the some 30-odd hospital planning councils that are in operation at the present time which, as the minister also stated, will probably broaden their interest in the near future to become more of a health planning council. This is the process going on just at the moment.

Mr. Ferrier: I wonder if I can just make another comment. Evidently there is a metropolitan hospital planning council in Toronto and my understanding is that it has been on a voluntary basis. The director, Edwin B. Wahn evidently quit his job as the executive director. One of the reasons that he quit was that some of the hospitals which voluntarily were under the jurisdiction of this council, without going to the council, went directly to the Ontario Hospital Services Commission for approval of certain of their programmes.

Now, if it is on a voluntary basis and certain people are not playing fair with the council but are taking a shortcut, it means that the whole thing is going to go up in the air and nobody is going to pay sufficient attention to it.

I do not know how you make those kinds of councils more operative and more responsible for the particular needs in an area and to make sure that the hospitals in that area deal with it; whether it is the responsibility of the Ontario Hospital Services Commission to say, "Look, go back and get a recommendation from the planning council before you come to us. We want their views on the proposal that you are bringing forward." But it seems that when it is left on a voluntary basis, there are times when it will not be working as it should.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Of course, this is a function that the commission does fulfil. There is another ingredient that I have experimented with, and it is that at a certain point the Minister of Health, by being supportive to the local council and by showing loyalty to that institution as distinct from getting excited by an individual axe-grinder,

can actually help the council from the political and policy level and thereby, of course, help the commission in its deliberations.

So there is a very practical role filled analytically and with the expertise of the commission itself. But it seems to me that in some cases—and one has to be very delicate—there is room for ministerial initiative to underline the overall policy, namely that we wish to see the councils develop and obtain the recognition and prestige that is required for them to fulfil their jobs.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: On the same topic, Mr. Chairman, about these hospital councils. The chap who was the executive director of the Metropolitan Hospital Planning Council, Mr. Edwin Wahn, resigned recently. He was replaced by a chap from Calgary by the name of Dr. Irial Cogan. After his resignation he appeared on the CFRB programme, "Let's discuss It," and at that time he said that the Metropolitan Toronto Hospital Council would have to fold—it was not given extended powers. He said during that discussion that unless the jurisdiction over university teaching hospitals, nursing homes and homes for the aged was given to this hospital council, it was ineffective and would have to fold. He also said that many hospitals had to short-circuit the rules and regulations in order to get anywhere, because there were so many roadblocks put in their way by council zoning and so on.

They asked him to name some of the hospitals that had short-circuited the procedure, and of course he rightly refused to do so. What I want to know from the minister is if he intends to give increased jurisdiction to these hospital councils so that they can effectively carry out the task that is assigned to them.

Secondly, does he agree that this increased jurisdiction would have to include control over teaching hospitals? Thirdly, how long will we continue to worship teaching hospitals as sacred cows or golden bulls? I think that a lot of these teaching hospitals are being carried away by their own high regard for themselves. This is one of the reasons we have such high costs.

At the Hospital for Sick Children, at the present time, I believe the cost is \$100 per bed per day. That is a fantastic cost and I challenge Bassett or anybody else to justify that kind of a cost. You cannot attack it because he will write an editorial as he once did about me because you are attacking something sacred. He was on the board and

if you attacked the Hospital for Sick Children or where there are sick children—by the way, Gordon Sinclair says we should not call it the Hospital for Sick Children; he does not like the word “sick.” Call it the Hospital for Children—he would take a whack at you. But the minister, Dr. Charron or Mr. Martin justify \$100 a day per bed. And that is supposed to be a teaching hospital where many of the services are volunteered. I do not know what the cost is now over at the Toronto General, but I venture to say it is close to \$75. The costs are just running away; there is no control over these things.

Look at the Mount Sinai Hospital. Who is going to believe the statement issued by the people putting up that new edifice that they found it cheaper to put up a completely new hospital rather than just to add a wing? This was another way of extending the hospital to make it more grandiose so it would more or less keep up with the other Joneses who live on University Avenue; that is, who run the hospitals on University Avenue.

This seems to be the situation these days. I know how it operates, because I spent two years sitting on the board of governors of a hospital here in Toronto, and in fact it is trying to keep up with the Joneses. The fact remains there must be tight control so that there is none of this unnecessary, very expensive duplication of sophisticated services in downtown Toronto.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is the purpose of the council. As I intimated earlier, I do not think we are at the stage where we are ready to give formal powers—and by the word powers, I am looking to statutes for the power to regulate these councils with statutory force. But there is an intermediary stage and one that I think is appropriate at this point, and that is for the commission and the Minister of Health to ensure that they are totally supportive to the policies of the council as distinct from the policies that may bubble up from individuals' vested interests in the hospital region.

So this is an exercise that, of course, your remarks challenge the department and the commission to undertake. It is an exercise that we became involved in in Ottawa recently, which I think was productive in that area. How we approach it in Toronto is something that will require at the moment a degree of persuasion—delicacy but force is needed.

I may say with regard to the \$100 a day figure for a hospital that I think the mem-

bers and the public use those figures often without realizing that they are simply the result of a mathematical exercise, comprising taking the budget of the hospital and dividing it into bed-days. That is basically it, is it not, Mr. Martin.

Mr. B. Newman: Is there any other way?

Mr. Ben: Yes, is there any other way, to echo my friend?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but it gives the public and the casual observer the impression that in the same way as the Royal York may charge—I do not know—\$18 or \$20 a night for a bed and a room, the bed and the room in a hospital is costing \$100. I have had some checks made and if one takes away the tremendous and very specialized overhead of the central metropolitan Ontario hospitals—and that is what they are, for they serve not only Ontario but beyond the boundaries of this province—such as the Sick Children's and other teaching hospitals in the Toronto area, with their tremendous specialized equipment and overhead—the costs per bed are high but not unreasonable.

Mr. Ben: Oh now, wait a minute.

Mr. W. G. Pitman (Peterborough): That is the problem. Surely you would agree with that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but I am saying we equate to the bed and the total cost is a matter of arithmetic.

Mr. Pitman: It is not arithmetic, it is failure.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, do you not want the x-ray machines?

Mr. Ben: Oh now, now, now, just a second. Mr. Chairman, point of order.

Mr. Pitman: You do not need all that equipment, you do not need all those facilities. That is the very failure of this government, the fact that you have not provided in these estimates—

Mr. Ben: Point of order. Mr. Chairman, I have sat here patiently—

Mr. Pitman: You do not care, which is the problem.

Mr. Chairman: Order! Mr. Ben has the floor.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: That is exactly why we are moving into the nursing home field. That is exactly the reason—

Mr. Pitman: After a good many years.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Pitman: Unnecessary expenditure.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: There are no unnecessary expenditures. My goodness, I will bet my bottom dollar that there will not be an empty active treatment bed in our central metropolitan hospitals, teaching hospitals, no matter how many nursing homes you put in.

Mr. Pitman: I will bet my bottom dollar that there are a lot of people who are in those hospitals who should not be there.

Mr. Ben: We have been waiting patiently now for one hour to get a word in.

Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister. To begin with, nurses at the present time are not yet paid \$600 a month, but let us say that they are paid \$600 a month. That in essence is \$20 a day. So if you have one nurse per bed per shift, that is \$60. That leaves \$40 to pay for the food. Now I do not know what the special diets cost, but at one time I looked into the cost of special diets at Lambert Lodge where adults were eating, and at that time they were feeding them for less than \$1 a day. Let us say now that you can feed them for \$2 a day, that is giving you the benefit of the doubt, so we add on another \$2.

I doubt very much, Mr. Chairman, that there is one serving woman per bed, but considering what a miserly pittance you pay these people, if there was one waitress per bed, even then there would be another \$15 a day—it would not even be that. But now we are only up to \$75 and this still leaves us \$25 for carrying charges and everything else like that. And note, Mr. Chairman, I am permitting you to allocate one nurse per bed, per shift, per day; that is three nurses per bed per day.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Those figures are not reasonable.

Mr. Ben: Then how can you add it up? But you know what is happening? I will tell you. You are charging two premiums of the people who subscribe to OHSC for the cost of educating doctors in this province. This is what you are doing.

You call them “teaching hospitals” and you are taking money from the people who are paying premiums for hospital services and you are actually charging them for educating the doctors. You do not charge the people in the hospitals for educating accountants. You do not charge the people in the hospitals for educating lawyers. You do not charge the people in the hospitals for educating engineers, but you do charge the people in hospitals for educating doctors.

How else can you justify such an outrageous rate per bed in the central teaching hospitals in downtown Toronto? And you know why? Everybody is afraid to buck the establishment—the doctors and the others, and the big directors who sit on the board of governors.

They get on the board of governors because they are supposed to be businessmen and competent. I suggest to you that all they are doing is squandering the people's money. They meet once a month there for an hour, as we used to do. They accept the word of the chairman on something that was decided probably in the Toronto Club or elsewhere, and that is what it is.

I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that it is time that the people of the province started to run the hospitals, not these people who find they can devote an hour a month to these needs and we end up with such a rate of charges. Let us hear from you.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, it is nonsense.

Mr. Ben: “Oh, it is nonsense,” that is all you can say. You justify to me a rate of \$100 a day per bed.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: If you did not overstate the position I think you could get a rational answer.

Mr. Ben: Sir, will you give us a rational answer? I am willing to listen.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Martin.

Mr. Martin: Mr. Chairman, as the minister has said, in connection with the total cost of the institution you only need to recall how much activity goes on in these places in relation to outpatients; these are people who walk in and walk out every day, emergencies, all sorts of outpatient activities—the total cost of all of that is included in this indenture too.

And of course, basically within that structure there is the cost of the education of the health disciplines associated with it that are

or have traditionally been provided with education through the hospital system.

In rationalizing of course, in relation to the premium—and I do not want to get too much into this—the basic fact is of course that the premium does not cover or does not even amount to one-third of the cost of the programme. So the people, in direct premiums, are not paying even one-third of the total cost of the programme.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, may I point out that when I received a bill from the hospital, when I was in the hospital, it was \$56 a day. This is what they charged me. That was the rate. What you are saying is that they charged to me the cost of their outpatient services. Now I find that despicable and deplorable, because in essence I was being charged for services which I did not receive and was being asked to subsidize something else, and so are other people.

I would point out that there is no abatement of OHSC premiums the way there is a premium for medical services. You have one standard premium and everybody has to pay it. Not only that, but we find out now that they pay a padded bill.

And you still have not justified why, even with the outpatient services, the charge should be \$100 a day. All you can say is "ridiculous" and sit back there leaning, all three of you, like those three monkeys—hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil—and that is about all you can do.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman: I thought the minister was going to reply to the member for Humber?

Mr. Ben: No!

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Not to that kind of remark.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring up the topic that I at one time asked the minister in the question period, and that was the acute deficit of chronic care beds in Essex county.

At that time I asked, in view of the fact the local medical profession says that acute care facilities in local hospitals are being used from five to 15 per cent of the time by chronic care patients; and also that it is going to take approximately eight to 10 years before a new chronic care hospital will be built in the area; and likewise the fact that the

chronic care facility that I referred to—Riverview Hospital—reports that the institution's facilities now are so inadequate and obsolete that health and safety of its 250 patients are endangered, I was going to ask the minister what recommendations he was going to make to the Ontario Hospital Services Commission and if he would consider petitioning the Treasury Board for additional funds so that Riverview Hospital could be developed much faster at the IODE centre; as is the intention of the hospital planning council for Essex county, but eight to 10 years from now. Surely, Mr. Chairman, we cannot wait to try to take care of our chronic care patients that long? What is the minister's reply to that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: First I would like to listen to the chairman's recommendations to me.

Mr. B. Newman: All right!

Mr. Martin: Mr. Chairman, there are some developments going on in relation to it. The references to Riverview Hospital in Windsor is to the existing institution which it has been agreed should be replaced.

The plan is that it will join forces, for the sake of efficiency and operation, and be on the same site as the present IODE hospital. The one phase that has been approved and is proceeding at the moment is the service features which will serve both the IODE hospital and the Riverview Hospital.

This matter was looked at very carefully by the hospital planning council in Windsor. We had to intimate that there were certain sums of money that could only be made available at the moment and the system of priorities was set up by the Windsor hospital planning council, which the commission supported, and these are going in in the order in which their priorities have been submitted. The question of how long it would be before Riverview comes on, is dependent within the limitations of capital funds that can be made available by the government.

Mr. B. Newman: What Mr. Martin mentions to me I know, Mr. Chairman. It is common knowledge in the community that the hospital planning council have postponed the project or set other priorities, and it is understandable. But because of the acute need, surely Mr. Minister, you in your wisdom should approach Treasury Board to hasten funds so that the facility so badly needed in the community could be replaced, could be duplicated?

You are going to be spending substantial funds now to improve the facility and by its improvement you are going to eliminate approximately 20 per cent of its capacity. I understand it will be reduced from a 250-bed hospital to approximately 200 beds. What do we do with the numbers of people that need this type of hospitalization? Where do we place them? You cannot put them in nursing homes; the facilities are not available in the community.

Mr. Minister, I would assume that you are just as aware of similar situations in other parts of the province where the elderly people have not got their fair share of the health dollar. I think it is about time that we took a greater concern for their health and welfare than we have in the past. I think you, Mr. Minister, could render the community a real service by cutting that eight- to 10-year waiting period, which the hospital planning council apparently seems to say it will take, and get that facility going now.

Metropolitan Hospital is going along with its construction, and I understand it will eventually end up by being approximately a \$17 or \$18 million project. But that is not going to relieve the hospital bed shortage in the community at all. It, I understand, is only going to add about 50 more beds—I may be wrong on the 50, but it is going to add some more beds. The first stage will actually eliminate some of the beds.

But when we look at Riverview Hospital, and the service it performs—admirable service—when you visit the hospital and see the difficult conditions under which the staff have to work as a result of an old building and overcrowding, it is located right next to one of the prime air polluters in the county, the Ford Motor Company power plant. I wondered where the planning was at any time in locating a hospital next to a polluting powerhouse. However, it is there and nothing can be done about that until the time Ford corrects that problem, which we hope will be this year.

But, Mr. Minister, I plead with you for Riverview Hospital. Look into the situation and do something for them, even if you have to go back to Treasury Board to get some funds so that they could get going on that planning and the construction much sooner rather than the eight- to 10-year period. Will you give me that undertaking, Mr. Minister?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Then I certainly hope, Mr. Minister, that you follow up on my suggestion because the problem really is urgent. In spite of the hospital planning committee recommendation—"let us do A, B and C,"—the old folks are sort of last. We always seem to push our elderly down to the bottom of the list of priorities rather than putting them much higher up.

I wanted to bring up two other topics; one is ambulance services. In the picking-up of patients by ambulance services today, why is it necessary to charge per patient on a pick-up? When two members of a family are involved and the ambulance comes down, why is it necessary to charge \$50—\$25 per patient? It is only the one trip.

Dr. D. J. Twiss (Ontario Hospital Service Commission): The ambulance cost is \$50 only if the patient is not insured. If it is an insured patient, it is \$5 per patient.

Mr. B. Newman: No, I do not mean to the individual himself, but I understand that the ambulance services received—are they associated only with the hospital today?

Dr. Twiss: Not all ambulance services.

Mr. B. Newman: Not all of them. I had a lady contact me in the course of my responsibilities over the past year when two of her children were involved in an accident. Really, they could have gone to the hospital without the ambulance. She could have taken them in a car but instead the ambulance was called, for obvious reasons. They brought them to the hospital and you would have assumed it would have been a \$25 charge. No, it was a \$50 charge. That to me seems exorbitant for ambulance services that transported the patients, I think, it was approximately half a mile.

Dr. Twiss: This has always been the policy of the service. It is not that the ambulance operator himself derives the \$50 from the picking up of the two patients and carrying them to the hospital. He is on a budget and salary so that he is not receiving the extra money.

Mr. B. Newman: I do not for one minute think that the chauffeur of the ambulance is making a killing or anything of that sort, but it does seem strange that instead of a cab fare from the location of the accident, when the individual is not seriously hurt—and generally you can tell, not always—you

have exorbitant charges at times. This party was extremely critical of the medical and hospital plan as the result of an episode like this—\$50 for a half a mile with two children. She could have brought them to the hospital in her own car for 35 cents or so. This was one of the reasons she says the charges are getting out of control.

Dr. Twiss: Did she pay the \$50?

Mr. B. Newman: No she did not pay. But the charges were \$25 for each person in the ambulance. She paid \$10.

Dr. Twiss: Charged to whom?

Mr. B. Newman: I do not know to whom. I would assume to your plan itself. But even then she paid the \$5 per child—\$10 for a little ride like that. Had they been hurt she would not have been critical at all, but it was minor—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But you are dealing with her paying \$10 instead of \$5.

Mr. B. Newman: That is right. I have one other item that I would like to bring up, Mr. Chairman, and that concerns the Ontario Association for the Control of Accidental Poisonings. Originally, the association got its start, if I am not mistaken, with the Windsor poison control centre, the Essex County Medical Association, and Dr. Breault is the man who is in charge of the thing.

They have been recommending and advocating for years now a safety container for various types of medications and poisons. Are you going to act at all on their recommendation, so that the poisons must be dispensed in some type of safety container? I know there is a problem here because the Palm-N'-Turn or the Medi-Safe container makes it difficult for arthritic patients to open the container. But surely, the recommendations of the association has a lot of merit when you look at the number of poisonings that have been avoided.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We did deal with this at some length—

Mr. B. Newman: I am sorry, Mr. Minister, I was absent at the time and I apologize to you for that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: —during public health.

Mr. B. Newman: Are you looking into it? Is there something going to be done on that then? Just a quick answer.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, there was a report made and the details of the problem were expressed, and the same point was raised.

Mr. B. Newman: What is the department's attitude on that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron? I have forgotten what the doctor said when it came to the two or three problems.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Chairman, these caps have been developed and they are of considerable value. But they are only of value when you are dealing with tablets or powders or things of this nature. They are not satisfactory for liquids of any sort. So this whole matter is being reviewed in terms of whether you can adopt a policy for their use in the type of thing for which they are of value and then continue the search for something that would be suitable for liquids.

Mr. B. Newman: Actually they are valuable for liquids too. Not as the container in which the liquids will be themselves enclosed, but the container in which the liquid is included would be inserted then in a second container, the Medi-Safe container or the Palm-N'-Turn type of container. I will not dwell on it any more because I think the minister knows enough about it.

I would like to ask about one other item, and that is the radiant ovens that are being sold quite readily. They are available all over. Is there any radiation hazard from these radiant type of cooking ovens?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Again, the member is on an earlier vote, but Dr. Charron—

Mr. B. Newman: Well, I intended to ask this last night, Mr. Chairman, and I deferred so that we could pass the vote.

Dr. Charron: Subject to correction by the experts, Mr. Chairman, I do not believe that there is.

Mr. B. Newman: There is no problem at all?

Dr. Charron: We will check this out to make sure, Mr. Newman. We will have our radiation people provide an answer to you directly.

Mr. B. Newman: Right! Thank you kindly.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben asked a question earlier. We will hear Mr. Pitman afterwards.

Mr. Ben: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I was waiting for answers from the minister with reference to the hospital councils. Is he going to give them extended jurisdiction over our teaching hospitals and over nursing homes and homes for the aged? What are his comments? If not, what are his comments on the suggestion of Mr. Wahn?

You may have forgotten, Mr. Minister. I pointed out to you—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I recall. The question of jurisdiction, I think, will be something that will be dealt with—and I use jurisdiction in the legal sense—when we reach the point of assessing whether or not we are ready to have health councils to fulfil the overall function in a district, region, metropolitan area—whatever.

With regard to the current question, and that is in Metropolitan Toronto, with regard to the “jurisdiction” of its present voluntary council over teaching hospitals, that is something I am simply assessing at the moment against the background of my experience in one or more jurisdictions in this area, where, by being supportive of the council, I have been able—of course, with the help and expertise of the commission—to change policy direction.

But I want to speak very generally because, as you know better than I, we are dealing here with a group of powerful, historically independent institutions. I would like to see how far we can go in the field of co-operation and I do not want to be put in the position of being accused of threatening.

Mr. Ben: Or rocking the boat.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, the rocking of the boat does not concern me. It is the approach that I want to watch. At some stage or other maybe we will have to threaten, but I always feel that the first exercise should be an effort to persuade.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, through the minister, can Mr. Martin give us the cost per diem for Toronto General, Mount Sinai Hospital, St. Joseph's and Queensway General?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We have the figures, but not off the top of our heads.

Mr. Ben: I thought he would have them present because we usually discuss these every year.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Let us look them up and we will answer your question.

Mr. Ben: All right. Now, could the minister tell me—

Mr. Martin: I would say, Mr. Minister, that these are published in quite some detail in the supplement to the annual report. Every hospital in the province is itemized by the various breakdown cost items in it, so that it is a public document.

Mr. B. Newman: Are the bookkeeping procedures the same in all of them?

Mr. Martin: Yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do you have an extra copy that we can give Mr. Ben to chew on?

Mr. Ben: Have you issued a report for 1971?

Mr. Martin: The 1970 report has not been issued, but this is the last one available, for 1969.

Mr. Ben: Oh, well, we had the figures for last year. We argued about them last year. I thought that you had current figures. You do not have figures for 1970?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, but they are not in our tabled report.

Mr. Ben: I see. All right. Could anybody tell me how many beds have become available in the general hospitals through the decline in the birth rate? I understand that many hospitals are converting some of their maternity ward beds into general service beds because of the decline in their use.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We do not have a statistical base to answer that question although I have heard, as the member has, that the pressure on our purely obstetric wards is gradually going down, is it not, Mr. Martin?

Mr. Martin: Yes, in some areas. It depends on population shifts and the variations of the complex of the community, which have to be examined pretty carefully, but in certain areas they definitely have gone down. This is the point of rationalizing, where there are two hospitals very close in an area, where we attempt to get the change in role that we referred to earlier.

Mr. Ben: Further to what the member for Windsor-Walkerville was discussing, I myself had a complaint that it is still impossible to get into an elective surgery bed and that at St. Joseph's Hospital one still has to go

through the emergency department. Furthermore, it would appear that in order to be classed as an emergency case, one has to arrive in an ambulance and then one has to pay for arriving in an ambulance in order to get into the hospital.

This was a direct complaint made to me—an example was cited—that they could not get into a bed. Finally, the doctor said: "Look, all I can suggest to you is call an ambulance and pull up to the emergency department door," and they did. In fact, they had to spend some time out in the corridor because there was not a bed available.

Surely one should not have to compromise his own conscience and use an ambulance, when he could possibly call a taxi or use his own family car, just to create a false picture to justify getting into a hospital for an operation.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, it would be false, of course.

Mr. Ben: It is a false picture. The emergency, the need to get into the hospital was not false.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, but it would be false in relation to the physician's responsibilities, because the responsibility of the physician is to decide, as a physician working in that hospital, whether he will stick to the rules. And the rules are that he has the responsibility of assessing each of his patients as to whether they are urgent or otherwise.

Mr. Ben: The doctor assessed this patient as requiring surgery.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: He has that responsibility, and a conscientious doctor would not break his—

Mr. Ben: On the contrary, perhaps it was a conscientious doctor, and if it was the only way he could look after his patient, deplorably so, could it not be the reverse of the picture that the minister paints? For example, the hierarchy in hospitals—the surgeons, the chief surgeons—I understand they are more or less guaranteed so many beds or there are so many beds kept available for their use.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: This is a problem that causes me very great concern. I can only tell the hon. member that the interplay between responsibilities of doctors in the hospital and the hospital is of obvious concern to me. I have mentioned that I have discussions with the College of Physicians

and Surgeons and they have written me in detail discussing their preparedness to assume a role in relation to doctors' responsibilities in a hospital. This is part way, of course, to coming to grips with the changes that I think are going to have to develop in this province in relation to exactly what you are talking about.

Now, where is authority to be exercised on admission? Do we have an admitting policy that is really reasonable throughout the province? Are we relating internal staff to beds to authority again?

Mr. Ben: The seniority system.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Pardon?

Mr. Ben: The seniority system.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, seniority, priority, privilege.

Mr. Ben: Prestige, privilege, yes.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: On all of them. It concerns me very much.

Mr. Ben: What is your department doing, may I ask, toward solving this very—what would be a good adjective to describe the situation? Disconcerting would be a good one.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is more serious than disconcerting.

Mr. Ben: Appallingly so.

Mr. Pitman: Frustrating.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And it can be wasteful, not only of men and materials. It could be wasteful of talent and the rest, and the hospital government itself gets involved in the problem. I do not think the department is the vehicle for handling a question like this and the OHSC, by statute, is severely limited in its ability to look into it. I am looking for that third alternative, or that third choice, and that is where I am afraid I have to leave it this afternoon.

Mr. Ben: There is another aspect of utilization of hospitalization services by doctors that troubles me. That is the system of accreditation, the privilege to use a hospital, and I want to tell you that the fact that a clique in a hospital may determine who may join them in using the facilities of that hospital does not disturb me half as much as the reasons they give for excluding others.

They say that it is their responsibility to pass judgement on the ability of doctors to

use the facilities of the hospital; that they are, in fact, the judges of the competence of other physicians.

What disturbs me is this: They, in essence, are saying that notwithstanding the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Province of Ontario, the licensing body for the profession, licensing doctors to practise medicine in the Province of Ontario, or licensing doctors to act as surgeons in the Province of Ontario, they still may not, in the eyes of their fellow members of the profession, be competent to do that which they are licensed to do. Do you follow me? I think you—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Very much so.

Mr. Ben: I think you do. This is the frightening part of it. I say how dare the board of a hospital, the medical board of a hospital, say that doctor A cannot avail himself of the facilities of that particular hospital because in their joint judgement he is not competent so to do? He does not come up to the standard they deem necessary before he can use those facilities.

Or the reverse; how dare the College of Physicians and Surgeons grant a diploma to a person saying that he is a doctor qualified to carry on the practice of medicine in the Province of Ontario—perform operations—when, in fact, others who should possibly know say to the public that person is not qualified so to do? This is what disturbs me.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, you cannot place too much blame on the college itself, because it, as I study it, does not have the power to either dare or not to dare. As I mentioned yesterday during these estimates, the college is operating under ancient legislation, in the sense of it being of any use to tackle the kind of problem you have raised this afternoon.

I quoted in my speech to the OMA the other day that the college has written me formally stating among a whole series of topics, its interest in receiving vastly extended powers from the Legislature, one of which would be the power to assess the medical function of a doctor within the ambit of the hospital itself. As Mr. Ben mentions, it is not exercised because they do not have statutory power to do so today.

Again, this falls within the four or five different points that I am very much concerned with. One of these days I will be putting in motion the kind of study we need of the whole problem that you have been discussing, Mr. Ben, because it is there.

In the Province of Manitoba, they dealt with the problem by appointing a royal commission which dealt with part of the whole subject we are discussing. At the moment—and you can perhaps understand it—I am not quite so sure that either conclusion is pertinent or that the Manitoba approach was one that would suit the situation in Ontario.

Beyond that, it is highly complicated, because the question of privilege and the functioning of the doctor in the hospital must be seen against the background of the hospital function itself. It is very different in a teaching hospital than it is in a non-teaching hospital, in that the privilege is tied into responsibility insofar as the teaching role is concerned.

So, I think it requires more than an off-hand, off-with-their-heads sort of approach, or a ministerial or governmental edict saying anything of a direct and critical nature. I think what we really need is something in the nature of an assessment of the situation by experts who can be called in to do it.

Mr. Ben: I think the concept of hospitals—and this you will have to concur in—has changed drastically since OHSC came into being. At one time, even in what you would call a general hospital, as financed by public moneys but through private directions, the bulk of the operating costs, if not all the operating costs, did not come out of the consolidated revenues of the Province of Ontario.

All general hospitals are now public hospitals, and their operations are paid for, almost exclusively, out of the consolidated revenues of the Province of Ontario to which we pay the OHSC fee. It would appear to me, therefore, that hospitals are public property; that they should be run like public property and be available to the public in general; that every person who is certified by the College of Physicians and Surgeons or the licensing body for the time being—and the College of Physicians and Surgeons is the licensing body of the medical profession—to be qualified to practise medicine in the Province of Ontario, to practise surgery in the Province of Ontario, or to practise psychiatry, should have available to him the services and the facilities of a public institution, such as a general hospital.

It may be that you would have to set up a committee of doctors to determine priorities in the use of those facilities, as, in essence they do now, except at the present time, they set up a system of priorities among those, and

only those, who are accredited to that particular hospital. What I am suggesting is that each hospital have a body of physicians and surgeons to vet all applications for use of the facilities from any doctor in a given area. In other words, you would divide the city into hospital districts or health care service districts, and have a committee sit in judgement on the medical profession and determine which patient shall have priority for the use of a bed in a hospital or for the use of an operating room. Every doctor in that area, licensed to practise medicine, should be able to apply to have a patient admitted. This, to me, is the only just way and I cannot see why it should be so difficult to impose such a system.

I am not unmindful of the, perhaps, special position in which those people, highly qualified in the practice of medicine, may find themselves by virtue of contributing of their knowledge to the teaching of others in that profession. Usually, they are underpaid, if they are paid at all. A lot of people volunteer their services, for example, to the Hospital for Sick Children. One of these benefits or perquisites they receive as teachers in a teaching hospital is having available to them, more so than others, the use of beds and the use of the facilities. I imagine one of the justifications of this would be that they seldom have a case or a patient whose treatment would be other than a teaching example to the students of medicine. But even so, I think, perhaps, you are seeking what is the trend in North America and, that is, a very complicated and sophisticated solution, whereas perhaps the most direct and most forward and simple system would be the most beneficial in the interests of the citizens of the province.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The second alternative would certainly be the most attractive as far as I am concerned. I am not looking that it be complicated; it is just that I cannot leap, as Minister of Health, toward the last assumption without an assessment. I think it is probably more complicated than the member has outlined, because I do find the more I learn about the operations of hospitals, for good or ill, that the traditions and the history and the practices of these hospitals, whether you or I agree with them as lawyers or logicians, are facts of life. We must avoid, if we can, going to the degree that would create disruption.

So, as I say again, I am assessing it. I hope it can be as simple as you suggest.

Mr. Ben: I would just, in ending, point this out. One of the requirements or one of the privileges requested of you by the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Ontario was—and I put this in quotes because it was their direct request—"Responsibility and authority to control and regulate in its entirety the practice of medicine, including authority in the area of medical appointment to hospital staff."

I should feel that having such an august body on your side should certainly be a powerful lever toward solving this—again to use the phrase from the hon. member for Peterborough—"disconcerting situation," and that is, as you yourself admitted, putting it most mildly.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pitman.

Mr. Pitman: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a word about my outburst a few moments ago when the minister was discussing the cost of hospital beds and comparing it to the Royal York Hotel. The point that I was trying to make was that—surely the minister would agree—one of the major problems in our health services has been the fact that we have been using very expensive hospital beds for purposes which really did not go much beyond the needs of the Royal York Hotel, that is, that there were people in those beds who just did not need the tremendous facilities which the minister himself described.

One would expect and one would hope that the whole purpose of the minister's recent announcement in extending the general coverage of OHSC to the other health care facilities that he has discussed is that very fact that we can finally get people into a level of health services that they need and cut down the cost of expanding our hospital needs when we do not need to build hospitals in Ontario, perhaps for the next 20 years. I hope that is the case.

Certainly, if one reads the comments that Dr. Hugh Walker of your hospital commission made to the Financial Times just a few months ago, one certainly cannot escape that fact. He points out that Canada cannot afford the current growth of health costs. He warns that efficiency will not improve until Canadians change their attitude. Perhaps the minister would like to comment on some of these remarks.

He says that people expect too much of the medical facilities in the country. The government should question the value of the

health care they are getting for their money. I suppose that is what the minister has been doing over the past number of weeks.

He says that doctors and hospital administrators are too free spending with taxpayers' money. He goes on to point out the Economic Council of Canada's figures, that health care is rising by 14 per cent a year. I think it is almost as bad as education. I think those were the two that were singled out by the federal government in terms of the shared-cost programmes. Somehow, it had to be got under control if we are not going to end up by spending our whole gross national product totally on health and education by the year 2,000.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is worse than education.

Mr. Pitman: It is worse than education? Yes, I think the minister is probably right there, except I would put it this way. I think in education we could use a good deal more imagination. Perhaps in health care we could use a good deal more imagination. But I think probably the needs are evident.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: By "worse," I meant the acceleration is worse.

Mr. Pitman: Oh, I see, I am sorry. In the mid-fifties health care per capita cost \$60 and it will rise to \$345 per person by 1975. I think that the point that Dr. Walker made was the need for greater efficiency, the need for more effective management, better management.

What I cannot get into any kind of juxtaposition this afternoon as I sit and listen to the minister and his comments to the member for Humber is how he is going to be able to get control of these costs using the administrative structures which he has at his disposal at the present time.

We are in a jumbo-jet age and you are driving a Model T. Ford. And I think the two things that in a sense have kept some kind of a lid on hospital costs, or at least health care costs, in the past 20 years, first, has been the lack of coverage for the wider spectrum of health care costs. Although you might say there might be a chance to bring them down per capita, because we can put people in cheaper beds, as you said a moment ago, still, when you have widened that spectrum and give a wider coverage, obviously we are going to be putting more and more money into health care programmes for the people of this province. That has been the one thing that has held things down—the

people could not afford to go into these various kind of care programmes.

The second thing, of course, is the lack of facilities. They just are not there; we just do not have enough. We have enough hospitals, we are obsessed with hospitals, but we do not have intensive care nursing homes at different levels of care down to the point where you reach almost the long-term residential nursing home, or extended care for the aged, or even a home care programme. These are very, very low priorities. They have been very, very low priorities over the past 20 years. We just do not have these facilities.

I am trying really to get two things from the minister now. I am looking over his entire spectrum.

First, what is the Ontario plan? Do you have any total plan? Do you know what the population is? Do you know the age of the population? Do you know the general health levels of the population across the various regions of the province? Do you know what are likely to be the demands in these various areas of the province? How are you going to bring in your programme of extending the coverage of OHSIP to these various forms of facilities, when those facilities do not exist in many parts of the province?

Do you have any planned programme of providing these facilities, or are you simply going to let the thing work itself out in some kind of a bedraggled fashion over the next 15 years after you extend the programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No. There is a very active and very important planning function, and certainly in relation to health care delivery we can see that that has to be a function carried out by those people presently responsible for the—

Mr. Pitman: But who are the people presently responsible for a full Ontario programme?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Nobody is yet.

Mr. Pitman: Nobody is yet, that is the point.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Nor do I have a branch in the department responsible for it as yet.

Mr. Pitman: Well are you going to create a branch of your department?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am just describing or underlining an agreement with your

point that we have to develop our health services delivery system in a functional way. I am really just preaching back to you what you are preaching to me.

Mr. Pitman: Right:

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But saying that, of course, in different places—the department itself, the commission itself—there is planning going on insofar as hospital facilities are concerned. As I mentioned in my statement a couple of weeks ago in relation to nursing homes, that is going to be a planned, not simply subsidized, operation.

Insofar as our facilities that overlap with Social and Family Services where it grips with the planning problem there, we have plans, and they are developing well in relation to home care and its orientation with our hospital system, and in some cases it is linked with our health unit systems, our plans in regionalization.

For instance I hope very soon to speak to the House on the question of our plans with regard to mental health. I am not going to take the question time up, but let me assure you, Mr. Pitman, that if there is anything that is an interesting challenge to the Minister of Health in 1971 and the years immediately following, it is a fact that after years of building historically for different reasons, different institutions to serve different purposes—you know, whether a particular institution started 200 years ago because of a religious order happening to be there; whether a wealthy industrialist started another institution in another spot for the reason that he happened to be there—1971-1972 must be the latest time we in this province can afford to start the project of pulling the whole thing together, which will include as I mentioned earlier, a fundamental reorganization and restructuring of The Department of Health itself.

Mr. Pitman: I am glad to hear that. But the point I am trying to approach, grope for, is some kind of administrative pattern which I just cannot see. For example, you speak of not wanting to threaten, and you talk with some awe of these powerful, historically independent groups of people who are running the system at the regional level. You do not want to step in and put your finger into the Metro planning, for example, where you have the metropolitan hospital planning council.

In fact you mentioned a moment ago that you have been planning at the hospital level.

It is not even sure that you have even got power there to plan in any kind of an effective way. In fact, you have Dr. Hugo Hubert of Hamilton saying that voluntary co-operation among hospitals to avoid overlapping of services will be one of the major issues facing hospitals. It seems to me that as Minister of Health your job surely is not to threaten, it is to legislate. I cannot see any bite, any dramatic muscle, that is going to make it possible for you to do the things which you are talking about day by day in terms of rationalizing the health care delivery services for the people of Ontario.

You do not have the machinery. You just do not have any kind of physical grasp—even mental grasp—I am impressed by that. But I see no way by which you are going to be able to bring into effect, into reality, all the various levels of health care services, residential care services, which are available, home care services which should be available. I see no way that you are going to be able to do that and at the same time control the cost when you do not have any real control over what is going on virtually anywhere in the Province of Ontario. Look at your regional hospital board. The struggle that is going on with these boards with almost herculean drama is going on everywhere in Ontario between various hospitals. You say we do not want to threaten them.

I think that somewhere along the line, if you are going to provide the kind of health care which you are promising to the people of Ontario—which you are now prepared to pay for through some kind of public funding—and as you admitted in the health committee a few days ago, we have won that argument on this side of the House, that this is the kind of thing which we should be doing in a public way—for each other, as our brother's keeper, in effect—I can see no way whereby you can provide those services on the kind of ad hoc basis on which you have things going in Ontario now.

I do not see any punch; I do not see any direction. For example, it would seem to me that the first step that has to be taken is for the Minister of Health to say "This is what we are going to do by the year 1975. These are the facilities that are going to be available in Ontario. This is the overall plan which we have. Now we are going to negotiate with you on the perimeters of this overall plan, what you are prepared to do and can do and can co-operate to do in your region."

Behind that co-operation and dialogue and participation you, as Minister of Health, have a responsibility for the health of the people in that region. You have got to have the legislative muscle. You have to have the administrative machinery to step in there and do something. Either you give the regional hospital planning board power to do something or if they cannot do something, you take upon yourself as the Minister of Health and as The Department of Health to carry out what has to be done to provide the health needs of the people in that region.

That is what I just do not see taking place, as I sit here this afternoon.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Just give us some time, not much time.

Mr. Pitman: You have set your own schedule in terms of saying, "By this time we are going to have the nursing homes—by this time we are going to have all these facilities available."

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Insofar as the Hospital Services Commission is concerned, of course, we can spell it out in detail. In most of the regions now, they are phasing in their particular facilities over four- and five-year periods. There has been a tremendous amount of work done, as you undoubtedly realize, in the last—

Mr. Pitman: But much of it has been self-serving and much of it has been pointless.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am not going to quarrel about that, but there is an awful lot of work done. I do not think there is any need for more studies, and I guess you will agree with me on this. I think the need in 1971—and it would be a very exciting thing from my point of view to be in on it—the need is to do exactly what I said earlier; to look at all the materials we have and put together a functional health system in the province.

I agree with you—without that, we will never get reins on the horse. We will never be able to control it. As I say, give me some time. There will be legislation within the next month which will be obviously directed toward this. As I mentioned earlier, I do not know whether the legislation can be developed, but the whole department needs reorganizing if it is going to fulfill the function.

Mr. Pitman: I agree with that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Okay! It is not that anyone procrastinated, I do not think.

They were so absorbed with developing what we have got at the moment that historically we have reached the point where we can do this kind of functional rationalization. As I say, I completely agree with the member; this is the challenge in 1971-1972 and on. Otherwise we are bankrupt.

Mr. Pitman: Exactly, that is exactly what I am afraid of. Unless this kind of machinery and direction and overall planning is present before you start launching into all these programmes, there is going to be massive wastage, just as we have seen in the educational system.

The problem of OISE is not that a group of evil men are misallocating money and wasting taxpayers' resources; it is simply that it was set up in a few months and there is an inevitable wastage when you do not have any long-term plan and when you are not doing things in a very effective way.

It was the same with the colleges of applied arts and technology. The minister would agree with this. All over the province now you have duplication, you have wastage, simply because it was suddenly realized that we had to have 20 colleges of applied arts and technology. We had to have them in six months. We had to have them staffed, start them operating by the next September. You cannot run a major function of a province that way and not have massive wastage.

The minister says that we have been moving along. He is trying to give that impression of this government. As I say, I cannot blame this minister; he has only been around for a couple of months in this portfolio. I am suggesting that your predecessors and this government have not carried on the affairs of this province in that way and as a result we are paying for it. We are paying very heavily for it. I am anxious that we not pay in the Seventies and Eighties for what we have not done in 1971 and 1972 before we moved into these kinds of programmes which the minister is talking about.

An example that I might point out, I am sure the minister saw the letter that was in the Telegram on October 5, 1970. A doctor there said this province could save \$30 million in terms of health costs simply by putting in some kind of control factor in regard to emergency departments in the province's hospitals. There you have people walking into emergency when they should be really going to a doctor's office and emergency looks after them. Then, of course, it costs \$25 per patient instead of the \$5 it would

cost if this was dealt with on the basis of a normal doctor's office visit.

That is a doctor working in a hospital who makes that kind of assessment. What happens now when that kind of information becomes available or becomes known to people in your department? Surely that is the first thought, that your department officials became aware of this? What does your department do? What kind of directive—I hate to use the word “directive,” but what kind of pressure is put on hospitals to make sure that Dr. Walker's point is carried out? There is some kind of responsibility in terms of health care costs in hospitals. It is almost like having an open cheque book.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The commission itself exercises authority in auditing, and Mr. Martin, you might speak to this question. What is the cost discipline, insofar as the commission is concerned?

Mr. Martin: Mr. Chairman, obviously the hospitals as they are constituted now have cost controls put on them, because they are very definitely told the limits in which they can operate, or hopefully operate, within the economic climate. The question of the hospital and the person who walks in off the street is a very difficult one. These places are service institutions and it is most difficult to know at first glance whether a person has a real problem of illness or whether it is acute or less acute. The mores of our society are such that all that one hospital need to do is to turn away somebody and for something to happen and I think we are all familiar with what happens at that point.

Mr. Pitman: Yes.

Mr. Martin: We recognize that we are in an area that is serving people at a time when they need very badly to be looked after—

Mr. Pitman: In some cases they do, yes.

Mr. Martin: —and therefore this is a very, very difficult problem.

But I subscribe to what the minister has indicated. There has been input in a number of other areas. We have in the input indicated the problems that are associated with the hospital system and I think the minister has indicated that there are other steps being taken to obviate this.

The point I want to make and which I am sure the hon. member recognizes is that we do not control people—that is, we do not control the individual on the street. When he

gets a pain or gets sick he heads for the nearest point where he thinks he can get that service.

Mr. Pitman: I appreciate that. I was rather impressed by a comment that was made in *Fortune* magazine; it was quoted in a speech that one of your officials made. He stated very specifically that if the government is going to make decisions and start cutting down on hospitals, then the government has to be prepared to tell us which places are going to die. That is not a job, a responsibility, which any government wants to take.

Where are you moving? You have a great number of different kinds of planning boards, you have got regional hospital boards, or a hospital planning board—I am not giving you the proper designation—you have got the city-county health units, or the inter-county health units, and you were talking about a health planning council. Is it your plan that eventually there would be in each region a health planning council which would in a sense be planning the future facilities in all of these areas, both in terms of hospitals, in terms of extended home care, the whole thing?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Absolutely.

Mr. Pitman: How are you going to move from the—I will not call it the chaos—I will call it variegated quilt, patchwork quilt, which we have now, to some kind of operation such as you have suggested? How do we get from here to there, and when are we going to get there?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The different areas have different backgrounds. I think for instance in my own area, the Ottawa area, the council has been working very hard and working very well.

Mr. Pitman: Does this tie in with the regional government?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: No, I am just talking about the hospital planning council of the Ottawa district. The boundaries are not the same, as I recall it, as those of simply the regional government.

But we are dealing with feeling. I would think that if we had the legislation available you could find the Ottawa district, for example, and I think the Hamilton district would be another good example, ready to move into a health council within months. We could probably do this in Sudbury. Whether we have the tradition of co-operation

in Toronto, for example, I do not know. We are not dealing with large time dimensions. People's thinking is changing very quickly, I think you probably recognize this yourself as you move around. People are recognizing the thing that we are discussing.

Mr. Pitman: Very much so.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: And so what is the answer to it? It is the recognition of the restructuring of the way they govern themselves in this field; time, or reorganization of the department that takes legislation. But it does not take years. What other questions were you raising?

Mr. Pitman: My main concern was how you get from the patchwork we have now, which is not particularly power oriented, it is essentially consolidated, perhaps to a degree recommending solutions for areas to the point where you really have that rationalization which is directed from some kind of a local council with a high degree of local doctors and local people and local institutions.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But as you know, and as we have all learned, the political ingredient is an intangible and relates to the local area and local attitudes.

Mr. Pitman: You could say the same thing about regional governments.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As a concept, there are parts of the province in which it was accepted smoothly and happily. There are other parts where the irritation put almost intolerable strains on the local people. You can see the same thing in relation to education, so it is part of the same exercise. For instance, let us take a typical example, the people I know in Ottawa who have worked very hard and are working hard this week, next week, on the hospital planning situation in Ottawa. I do not want them to turn around tomorrow and say, "We are going to discard you and experiment with something brand new."

Mr. Pitman: But do you not think you would get that co-operation if they could see where they were going? That is what is wrong with regional government. That was what was wrong with the whole education mixup—there was never any long-term goal given people to work toward.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Oh, you give me long terms. Of course that is a political problem.

Mr. Pitman: Yes, but you have made it short term.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: But if you are making it anything like a significant attack upon waste in our total health system, long term is too much. We simply cannot afford to be going up, as you mention, 14 per cent in Canadian costs in health and maybe next year 18 or 20 per cent. Those figures are absolutely frightening. So the time that we have available to do something in a total and overall way of reorganization is at the most a year or two; at the most.

Mr. Pitman: I think that one of the things you are going to come into, of course, is the fact that in spite of the existence of these local bodies, so often things have taken place in regard to your department without any reference to these local bodies.

For example, a year ago, in my own area, they put in a provincial lab and there was really no effective negotiation with the hospital council. There was negotiation up to a point and suddenly the whole thing disappeared from that forum and was being dealt with by The Department of Public Works who were putting up a building somewhere and that was about the end of it.

You have got a situation right now—and I do not want to politicize this at all because it is, as you well know, a very sweet political issue we have got there. Is it the policy of The Department of Health to encourage city or county health units to associate themselves in hospital complexes or to build near hospitals? It was in the past. This was the policy which was expressed in the past. Is it now the policy of the—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Dr. Charron.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Chairman, I think this depends on the local community. I would say, Mr. Pitman, that in a community of your size, if you can bring about a degree of centralization of these resources, it makes it easier not only to develop the service but also to place the service in a position where the public would know where the services exist.

Mr. Pitman: Luckily, the provincial lab is not very far from the hospital, just down the street. Luckily it was in that area. What you are suggesting is that that would be an optimum idea of having the city or county health units somewhere close or nearby the hospital if they are to be—

Dr. Charron: Yes, sir. This would be a logical solution, I think, in a community of your size. When you get into larger, metropolitan areas, it is not as practical to place your health unit adjacent to one hospital of several. Certainly there should be a relationship between these various health services so that they can be available to the public. I think this question of availability is one of the most important factors.

Mr. Pitman: I could not agree more but the problem we have got there now—I do not want to get into a long discussion—and as I say, I do not want to politicize. I do not want to even mention names.

All I want to talk about is the fact that The Department of Health went ahead and okayed the selection which the city and county health unit made in the centre of the city before either—I am not sure if the time element comes in the county—but certainly the city had not agreed to this particular site selection, in the particular place where the health unit is going to be placed.

Now we have a great to-do because the city have certain plans for what they see as a logical and sensible rationalization of health care delivery in the Peterborough area. You have a sweet war going on now between the county council, or certain members of the county council, and the city, and certainly that was not necessary. Why did The Department of Health not wait until the local people had made the decision, or at least provide some consultation with the local people? Why, indeed, would you have one of your officials up in the city of Peterborough warring with one of the participants in the struggle? That is what I mean by the patchwork that we are involved with now. It is a level, you might say, at which we are deciding health care needs now. It seems to me a millennium; it is as though you were talking about the year 2,500 to talk about the kind of health delivery service the minister is discussing for about 1972 or 1973.

I hope the minister is prepared to stay up for about 24 hours a day, seven days a week, between now and 1972, because he is going to need that time to make up the distance between what he is articulating at the present time and where we stand in terms of the actuality of making decisions about health care services, either at the local or the provincial level.

You might say the distance between the reality and the articulation is the distance between here and the moon and back. I just

say this to the minister, in all sincerity, without criticizing at all: I just hope he can produce because there is going to be, you might say, a problem of credibility very quickly, in terms of the existing situation we have in Ontario now.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gilbertson.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): Mr. Chairman, I would like to make some inquiries with regard to some of the places in my riding such as Hornepayne, White River and Wawa. I do not intend to be long, but I am sure that some of your deputies will be pretty well aware of the situation and the conditions in relation to doctors and hospital services.

For instance, in Hornepayne, I know that there is a population of approximately 1,800; perhaps between 1,800 and 2,000 population; and there is just the one doctor. Now, they have to go on a holiday once in a while, and when this doctor goes, how does he make out when he wants to take a holiday? He is so far from a town of any size—I think Hearst is about the closest to Hornepayne. Do you have any problem along that line?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Martin can describe to you what I was describing briefly in Sudbury last week. That is, the extension of our hospital services in a number of centres, several of which you have mentioned, along the railway and off it. Would Dr. Martin like to give some particulars of what is planned, not, of course, with regard to doctor recruitment, but specifically with regard to hospital services?

Mr. Gilbertson: Mr. Chairman, to the minister, I know you have good hospital facilities in Hornepayne. I am aware of it. Really what I was mainly interested in is how does one doctor manage?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Perhaps Dr. Charron can deal with this. We were dealing with this in detail yesterday and today we are dealing with hospital services specifically, but Dr. Charron could speak to this, too.

Dr. Charron: Mr. Minister, I think this does create a problem in a number of situations in the province. It would be my guess that what should take place in a community like Hornepayne is that you should be aiming at a doctor population of probably two physicians who would not only service Hornepayne, but any communities that were close enough to be contacted from Hornepayne as a centre.

The other feature that we are considering, where we have to deal with the single doctor situation, is to develop a system of short contracts where doctors could be made available for a period of time so that the single doctor could leave that community, be it for a holiday or for additional post-graduate training and so forth.

This is part of the programme for the designated areas, the underserved areas. I think it is a two-pronged attack trying to develop a group concept that would take care of the situation where this is not possible—or even, where it is possible, a short-term contract would make another doctor available for a short period of time.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering how many speakers or questioners there are?

Mr. Chairman: About three. Are you finished, Mr. Gilbertson?

Mr. Gilbertson: No, I have another—

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The reason I ask—does it look as though we will run until six? If so—

Mr. Chairman: No, I am hoping we will be finished sooner. There are three more to speak.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I am just wondering whether we should break off for a cup of coffee for five minutes if we were going right through until six.

Mr. Chairman: No, I think we only have three speakers left after Mr. Gilbertson. It is quite possible, I think, we could finish long before six.

Mr. Gilbertson: Mr. Chairman, I have another question with regard to central Algoma, another place I am very familiar with concerning hospitals. I know that we have Sault Ste. Marie, of course, which is well fixed for hospitals and doctors. Then the next place where there is a group of doctors would be Blind River, and, in between Sault Ste. Marie and Blind River, there is Thessalon that has a hospital. St. Joseph's Island has a hospital there and they are both staffed by the Red Cross.

I know I have spoken to Dr. Charron and Dr. Copeman, wondering if there is not a possibility, in order to serve that area more efficiently, that we had a medical clinic somewhere in the Bruce Mines area where the doctors could work from there and we could

make better use of our present hospital facilities on St. Joseph's Island and in Thessalon.

At the present time, I am aware, and I know that the minister and his staff are aware, we are not able to utilize and do the things that doctors ordinarily could do on account of this. We have got one doctor on St. Joseph's Island and we also have most of the time one doctor in Thessalon. If we had three doctors in the area—and the population warrants it—and if we could have a central medical clinic somewhere in the Thessalon and St. Joseph's Island area, then the surrounding area could be serviced. Have you any comments on that?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I cannot instantly purport to comment on particular doctors and the particular doctor needs in particular areas. I may ask this question myself to the chairman of the commission. Do you assess clinical needs, other than those related to what is commonly called a hospital? I mean how far down the scale of health delivery buildings, as it were, or institutions, do you go as a matter of fact?

Mr. Martin: As a matter of facts, the legislation under which we operate, of course, specifically refers to hospitals and related facilities, so that in any question of planning we have to be cognizant of the other types of facilities that are also within the area. But the question of the provision of medical services per se beyond the ability to provide these within the institutional field has not been in our particular orbit.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Rather than leave it there, Mr. Chairman, one can picture—and the hon. member will know from our discussions over the past week in the committee—that we are all aiming toward the development of more clinics, and in those clinics, groupings of people's skills, whether they be doctors or whether they be the new specialists that we are canvassing, mainly doctor assistants or delegate nurses with certain powers to perform certain functions.

As well, in the field of dentistry—I do not know if you were there when we were discussing this—we are canvassing very seriously a much more local distribution of health services in more remote or at least less populated areas, based on the use of the clinical approach from the point of view of organization of particularly trained and qualified persons along with and supportive to the medical function.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, I have several items. The first item I would like to deal with grows out of an incident that occurred at the Brantford General Hospital—I believe it was in January—where a patient, undergoing abdominal surgery, was given the wrong type of blood and he had to be rushed to Hamilton to be put on a dialysis machine.

I understand that this was investigated by the OHSC. There are two or three things that I would like to know. Has the error been pinpointed and who really has jurisdiction to ferret out the facts in a case like this? Is it the local hospital board? Is it OHSC? And what kind of disciplinary action can be taken in this kind of an error?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The obvious one, if it were human error, is legal—if you raise the question of negligence. Insofar as the administration of the hospital itself is concerned, presumably medically and organizationally, their board has a responsibility here.

If it were part of a chronic situation, a continuing series of accidents, I am sure that Mr. Martin and the commission would have an interest. But as to a sort of a special little group running about, popping about checking—is that what you mean?

Mr. Ferrier: I wonder because it is a pretty serious thing to have happen.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: How would it have happened, Mr. Martin?

Mr. Martin: As you, Mr. Minister, have said, the identifying factor in it was a question of human error. Obviously the responsibility is with the hospital board in this sense.

But we have, through the care standard division of our commission, an obvious interest in what you might call exceptional circumstances that happen in any hospital, for two reasons. Obviously we want to know why it happened in the first place, and secondly, because these are situations in which human beings are dealing with human beings, whether there are lessons that can be learned that can be then passed on to other people in the field in which these kinds of situations would not need to be repeated.

So that, from the standpoint of a care standards involvement, Dr. Twiss and his division in here have an overriding interest in all this; but, as the minister said, legally the responsibility for this is under The Public Hospitals Act, on the board of the hospital.

Mr. Ferrier: How many cases of this type of thing have happened in the last years? Is this the only case where this kind of an error was made?

Dr. Twiss: To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Chairman, this was the only one that I heard of. It is most infrequent.

Mr. Ferrier: Do you know what steps have been taken at the particular hospital to try to make sure that the same mistake does not happen again?

Mr. Martin: Yes, we are aware of certain steps being taken which hopefully will avoid a recurrence of this. But wherever there are human beings involved in procedures that are as involved as some of the medical procedures concerned, there is never any guarantee that accidents will not happen. I say this with the reservation that it is not something that anybody desires, but human beings being human beings there are points at which certain errors can occur.

Mr. Ferrier: Do you know if the particular gentleman recovered?

Mr. Martin: Yes.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, that is good news. Another item that I would like to deal with is that it was mentioned that whenever a new hospital is built in the province an individual architect is engaged and the plans are designed from the bottom up. It was suggested in the articles by Jean Howarth that it could very well be that a standardized kind of hospital could be designed, and perhaps 20 variations would be necessary for the different sizes that are required in the various communities of this province, and these standard plans could be used and as a result there would be considerable savings in construction and I suppose the most labour-saving types of facilities could be designed. Is this being considered by the department?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have heard it debated over the years, and long before I was here, and you have heard it debated as well in the field of educational buildings. One of the problems, I suppose, concerning hospitals more particularly is that if you go on a programme such as this you end up with all your buildings obsolete for the same reason at the same time. Mr. Martin is very close to this question of construction costs and again I will ask him to deal with it.

Mr. Martin: Yes, we have some major interests in this type of thing and particularly in some of the smaller centres we have already become involved in what you might call a prototype, which is a prefabricated situation with certain variations to suit a specific location. We are experimenting with two or three of these at the present time.

Here, of course, we have to have the ability to sell the local people that this kind of approach is as acceptable as retaining their own architect, and so forth. But within our powers to persuade and provide some leadership in this regard, as I say, we are involved in this kind of thing at the present time.

Mr. Ferrier: Then I would like to move on to another item. I had a communication from an irate individual in Toronto who had to take a member of his family to the Queensway Hospital in Metro Toronto here on an emergency basis. When he went there he had to pay for parking. Evidently, he could not even get into the lot for the emergency department without having to stop and pay for parking.

Now, in making up your grant structure for hospitals in the province, especially in a large metropolitan area, is provision made for adequate parking for an emergency basis and for visitors of patients?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Well, the commission has a whole section that deals entirely with hospital design and with the review of plans, and I cannot conceive of it but the site plans and the general property must be taken into consideration, and I know it is taken into consideration on plan approvals.

Again, an isolated circumstance such as the one you mention means nothing to me. Perhaps Mr. Martin can say whether this has been a chronic problem in design.

Mr. Martin: First of all, I am sure it would not have necessitated passing through a pay parking lot in order to get the patient into the hospital, because in approving of structural layouts we would certainly make sure that access to the hospital's facilities was available on a public basis.

Now if he were going to stay there for a period, most of them I would think have some very short-term parking available, but in the main the larger metropolitan area hospitals now have to go—as most all other industrial commercial enterprises have had to go—to some type of controlled parking, with some kind of charges. Parking garages are not the kind of thing that is provided out of

the public grants, so that they have to, in some way, be reasonably self-sustaining.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, my understanding was that they could not get to the emergency service without having to go through the pay parking, but I could be wrong. It seems like a small item.

A year or so ago the Criminal Code was amended and therapeutic abortions were to be permitted if the pregnancy was likely to endanger the life or health of the particular woman. I would like to know how many hospitals in the Province of Ontario have the therapeutic abortions committee in operation, and is there any information as to how many hospitals in the province are actually performing abortions when a woman meets the standard as required by this committee?

Mr. Martin: Mr. Chairman, at the moment there are 105 hospitals in the province that are approved, with the proper committee structure, etcetera, required under the Criminal Code. Of these, 88 are accredited hospitals, and 17 are non-accredited hospitals to which the minister, under his authority under the Act, has extended approval. A total of 105.

Mr. Ferrier: And are actual abortions being carried out in these particular hospitals, or is there just a committee in name only?

Mr. Martin: To my knowledge the procedure of going ahead and getting approved and accrediting yourself was certainly against an intent to do it, and as far as we are aware they are being performed in most of these.

Now it depends on when these approvals are granted—when they have come into the stream. Some of them have been on much longer than others, but there is approval in the 105 and to my knowledge I would say that there was the full intention to carry out abortions in those that have applied for approval.

Mr. Ferrier: Why would a number of doctors refer their patients to the Women's Liberation movement, or suggest that they go to New York State, rather than refer them to our hospitals here? Is it because, in the opinion of the doctor, they would not meet the requirement of this committee? Or has there been an effort not to really—well, perhaps to have a committee, but not one in real operation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Under the law there has to be medical necessity involved.

Therefore, where there is no medical necessity I suppose that a doctor as you speculate may say to the woman, "Go to New York."

Mr. Ferrier: I will leave that subject for the time being.

Last summer a gentleman, Charles Black, issued a news release on the basis of the Ontario Hospital Services Commission putting an 8.5 per cent ceiling on the grants, I gather, that were to go to hospitals. I understand that in terms of global budgeting you are prepared to increase the grants to 8.5 per cent over the previous year to take into account the increase in costs and salaries and this kind of thing.

At that particular time there was a great deal of concern voiced, because a number of things were going to have to be cut back. They felt that inflation and a few other things would eat up that 8.5 per cent very rapidly and that the kind of expansion that some wanted to do was going to be curtailed.

I suppose the minister might not be the right person to ask if in fact the hospitals were able to live within these kind of restrictions and accepted them without much further protest. We got the news releases all at the first, and they were all very anxious and concerned, and did not get much after that.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I have not heard a peep on the subject since I have been minister.

Mr. Ferrier: Has there been any figures to show what was the percentage of increase in the hospital workers' salaries within the last year? These are generally a group of workers who have not been paid the same kind of wages as many others in our economy have. Did this kind of a restriction keep them from wage increases below those in other sections of the economy?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Do we have the figures?

Mr. Martin: I would think that, on the contrary, a very high percentage of the employees in public hospitals are members of various collective bargaining agreements. Negotiations have gone on. It is very difficult to set a specific figure because these do vary, depending on the conditions involved in the local area and so on, but as a general observation it would appear that particularly in the case of the service staffs, to which I believe the member is referring, their awards

in the agreements they have been working out with the local hospital people have been running at about 10 per cent.

Mr. Ferrier: I am glad to hear that they have been higher than in other years.

Now there is one other item that I wanted to bring up. My colleague, the hon. member for Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr) asked the minister some time ago about a non-mechanical dialysis machine, a portable machine that was developed by Dr. William G. Esmond in Maryland. It was much less expensive than the one that—a sort of a portable type—than the kind that is needed in hospitals now. I do not think he got an answer from the minister. Do you know if that particular machine is being examined at all?

Dr. Twiss: Mr. Chairman, this machine was looked into. It is not the type of machine that does a particularly good job of renal dialysis and it has not come into general favour for this type of use. There are better machines on the market than this.

Mr. Ferrier: The final thing, then, I have is this: When the Ontario Hospital Services Commission was set up the Prime Minister at that time suggested that it was to be funded one-third by the federal government, one-third by the provincial government and one-third by premiums. According to the information that I have received and made part of my budget speech last year, there has never been a time when the Ontario government has paid its one-third. In fact, the federal government has paid considerably more at times and the premiums have funded more. The province has at times paid as low as 13.8 per cent. The argument has been, I suppose, that the province has paid the cost of the Ontario Hospitals and the cost of tuberculosis care in the sanatoria, but even those institutions were not to be included in the province's one-third from what Mr. Frost said at one particular time.

Is the provincial government now paying its one-third or is the federal government still paying considerably more than its third and are premiums carrying an excessive weight in this regard?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: The figures for 1969 are as follows: premium income, 33.1 per cent; government of Canada 37.5 per cent; Province of Ontario 29.3 per cent; income from investments 0.1 per cent.

Mr. Ferrier: You are a little bit below. You are saving a little bit of money there. What about 1968? Would you have the figures for 1968?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Premiums, 29.2 per cent; government of Canada, 36.9 per cent; Province of Ontario, 33.8 per cent.

Mr. Ferrier: Are you projecting figures for 1971-1972; are you going to pick up one-third from the provincial revenues?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: I think Mr. Martin can better explain when we get into the projection of some of these variables.

Mr. Martin: I cannot give you the specific percentages, Mr. Chairman. One can appreciate that with the premiums fixed and the costs increasing, the effect will be that the percentage from the premiums will go down, the amount from the province will go up and probably the federal government, because of the fixed formula it is on, will remain reasonably close to being the same.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ruston.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Mr. Chairman, I just want to carry on with one or two items Mr. Newman brought up in regard to Riverview Hospital and some young adults who are now confined to the hospital and, I think, are being forced out because of the construction and so forth and overcrowding.

These are people, from what I can understand, from about 18 years of age up to 40; they are crippled in some way that they cannot take care of themselves and in that way must have hospital care. Has there ever been any consideration given to some other place or some other type of institution, or whatever you want to call it, to care for these people instead of a hospital?

I had one person remark to me that one of these younger people had to stay in a room where eight people had died in the past two years. This is rather a degrading situation, I think, for a young person who is of sound mind but physically handicapped so much that he must be in a hospital to have some care. Have you ever given any consideration to some other type of place to keep this type of person?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: We would be very happy to have adequate chronic care facilities everywhere in the province. It is part of the overall problem of sorting out our institutions and the needs insofar as you

particular question is concerned. Dr. Twiss, perhaps you could deal with it.

Dr. Twiss: I think, Mr. Chairman, this is a good question and one that is receiving some attention at the commission at the present time. We are looking into the whole question of the crippled who require long-term chronic care, as to what type of accommodation should best be provided for this type of individual.

Mr. Ruston: If you are considering it, I think that is all I have to say then. That satisfies me.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Mr. Chairman, I want to welcome the four new cabinet ministers over there. They should be quite an addition to the government. I only have a couple of brief points, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Minister, I had a man come to me who had been at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester and the costs per day were \$43. Ontario Hospital only recognizes 75 per cent of that; in other words, they pay roughly \$32 of his \$43.

We checked out a number of hospitals in the Metro area. For ward coverage the Ajax-Pickering General was \$44.55; Doctors' Hospital was \$52.55; Toronto General was \$93.50; St. Michael's was \$71.65. You pay those in total; yet a man goes to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester and the total cost is only \$43 a day, and you meet only 75 per cent.

It seems to me that we have got to strike an average; let us find out the provincial average of ward rates and possibly meet that. But in the four cases I have shown you the ward section of the Mayo Clinic is cheaper than all of them and yet you only meet 75 per cent.

The man paid a premium of \$39 or, if it is ward coverage, \$33 every three months—it is a fairly high premium—and we still only meet 75 per cent of his costs while confined to hospital. Let us get reasonable about this thing and at least let us pay the provincial average if a man has to go to another jurisdiction. But why is there this arbitrary figure of 75 per cent when you meet it double and more than double in many hospitals in Ontario?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Of course, that same situation could potentially arise in other hospitals in the United States, which could be more expensive than the one you

cited, as compared to a hospital in Ontario which was lower. I expect you would find the balance running both ways, and if we do not have a common percentage payment, I think the mathematics get fairly tricky.

We do not want to agree to pay 75 per cent of hospital care in any hospital at any rate that a person may be particularly fond of in another country.

Mr. Martel: I can accept that only partially, Mr. Chairman, that we could get hospital fees that would be extremely high. But we should work it out; there should be some mathematical way of working it out.

Let us say we took the province average of ward coverage and, as long as the ward coverage in another jurisdiction was below or par with that ward coverage which we accept in Ontario, we might consider meeting that total cost. I just do not know where ward coverage is any higher than, let us say, the Toronto General—and we meet the total costs there.

The man still needs hospital care. It is not a case of being choosy about hospitals. He needs the hospital care and that is what socialized coverage is all about—providing treatment for people when they need it. It seems to me to be a little bit discriminatory when you cut off and pay 75 per cent on ward rates that are lower than at least the four hospitals we checked here in the Toronto area.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Mr. Martin can give you the answer on the question of the arithmetic and what is included, excluded and whatever.

Mr. Martin: I think, Mr. Chairman, the point is that 75 per cent in this situation applies first of all to the elective procedure, because the emergency cases are paid at basically 100 per cent. Secondly, the 75 per cent applies only to the room charge by that hospital, because in addition to that we have to pick up all the costs of the special services, such as laboratory, radiology and so on—all of which, of course, are incorporated into those all-inclusive rates which you are talking about in Ontario.

Mr. Martel: I am not sure that you picked up all of that either, Mr. Martin. It seems to me that the man's bill was in the neighbourhood of \$600, and he met most of it or half of it himself. So you did not pick up that much of the case either for the extra charges. I am advised that some of these

were for related costs which Ontario Hospital would not meet as well.

Mr. Martin: That is if they were for certain non-insured services, but at this point I would not know what those were exactly.

Mr. Martel: Well it is a rather lengthy case. I just think that if we are going to provide hospital coverage we provide it in the total.

Mr. Martin: I would only say that we feel that this out-of-province benefit as far as Ontario is concerned has worked for many people reasonably well. We try to be very understanding because we even had staff go into areas of the States—particularly where we know Canadians have a tendency to migrate, particularly at certain times of the year—and make arrangements for these people in the hospital offices and so on.

Now, in this particular instance I would only say that I personally would like to have a chance to review it.

Mr. Martel: Fine, I will send you the file. One final point, very short. Mr. Minister, you were in Sudbury with me last week—or I was in Sudbury with you, whichever way we want to put it. The Ontario Hospital Commission has cut back the grant from \$30 million to \$21 million for the building necessary in Sudbury, which is not going to increase that many beds. The figures were 1967 figures that were being used at the time, they were not the present figures.

And your own study, the analysis of north-eastern Ontario, indicates that the Sudbury area is already 17 beds per 10,000 short of the provincial average. In other words there are 50 beds per 10,000 and the provincial average is 67 beds per 10,000. You have cut back \$9 million on the needs for 1967. Now how, after cutting back \$9 million on the 1967 need, with the industry expanding as it is in the Sudbury area, do you hope to even meet what the needs were in 1967, let alone what they will be in 1974 when the Laurentian is finished?

Mr. Martin: Mr. Chairman, of course when there are certain limits that are applicable on the amount of money that is made available for capital spending on hospitals, these have to be apportioned in relation to relative need right across the whole province. And of course, part of the problem in Sudbury, as I am sure it is recognized, is that one of the hospitals involved in this is a complete replacement hospital.

Therefore it is not just a straight addition to all the facilities, but it is just a matter of trying to phase the amount of money that we have available in relation, as I say, to relative need, and at this point I do not think that we are disputing the figures. The question is that some of the others have to be postponed in the future when further funds can be made available.

Mr. Martel: The figure that I have now is that \$1.5 million has already been utilized for architects' fees as a result of the changes made over the past three or four years. Any time approval is granted it has meant re-working the designs and \$1.5 million has, I am told, already gone to architects fees. The minister was there the other night when we got this figure thrown at us by Dr. Secuti and Dr. Leposki.

Mr. Martin: The problem in Sudbury was typical of some earlier conversations in this chamber, regarding three or four competing entities in relation to the services. We tried by persuasion and by all other methods available to us to try to rationalize that situation into an area where we could get people to go together and consolidate. The efforts had to be directed in this way because there was only so much money.

But when we finally had a look at all the aspirations of all of the hospitals in the Sudbury area, they were probably almost twice the amount that has been even worked with now. So there had to be some modifications in the planning area, and this is where we as a commission had to interject a certain amount of authority in order to force people to meld these things—to come up with a better rationalization of the services and to avoid the duplication that was going to be taking place.

This was not done altogether on our own, because as you know, the hospital planning council of Sudbury played a very important role in this and tried to get the people together, it looked at where these were duplicated, and so on, and came to a modified programme that has been now approved.

Mr. Martel: I was going to say to the minister—the problem is having to say it—I just think, as my colleague from Peterborough has said, it is time we maybe took a tougher stand at provincial level and said to the—and I will name them—to the French Catholic hospitals and the English Catholic hospitals or the Irish and the Protestant hospitals, it is time

they started to co-operate in this province and save the taxpayers' money.

It is a lot of nonsense when they cannot get along. As far as I am concerned, it is childish that we have to worry about what type of hospital it is and who is running it. We are in the business of providing health services to people and they just have to get over their little hang-ups because it is tremendously detrimental to the health of the people in this province.

If they cannot get together and resolve their problems then I think it is time that we took the initiative and legislated it into existence, if necessary, because this childishness has to stop.

One final point, then, with that said, saving you the trouble, Mr. Minister. The short-term problem we presented to the minister in great style the other night. It has not gone away, it is not going to go away and I realize it is only a week since that meeting but the problem gets worse.

Is there anything with respect to the recommendations which Mr. Jessiman or I have made, and so on, in the very near future, based on the 90-day delivery of temporary facilities?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: As the hon. member knows, there has been little time to breathe since our happy visit to Sudbury. I simply have not been able to assess it, nor sit down with my officials and assess it. However, it looks by the clock as though tomorrow will be a holiday and I will be able to work in my office for the whole morning. I will ensure we have a look at the proposal which came from the Sudbury and District Labour Council. As I recall it, it is consistent with your remarks in the House as to temporary accommodation.

Mr. Martel: We will be waiting to hear the final results.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the minister two questions. I would like to know, of the grants that have been going to the new hospital structures, are any of those hospitals chronic hospitals or convalescent hospitals?

Mr. Martin: As of this year? What time frame?

Mrs. M. Renwick: As of moneys allotted in this next budget?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: In these estimates?

Mrs. M. Renwick: In these estimates, yes. There is such a need for chronic and convalescent hospitals, even if they are small ones, in several communities, but I wondered if there had been any moneys budgeted for them.

Mr. Martin: We would have to take this from all our programmes, Mr. Chairman, but certainly there are parts of these programmes within the chronic illness field, yes. We could identify these specifically.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Should we get the member the answer or can we just say that, of course, the development of chronic care facilities is part of the spending virtually every year, in one way or another, if you include their convalescent wings on hospitals as distinct from separate buildings.

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is what I was trying to get at, Mr. Chairman. Are there any convalescent wings or separate chronic care wings? Are there any in the plans for the future because of the shortage that is existent now? Are all the grants going to general hospital facilities?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It is difficult to pull this out of the figures that we have in front of us relating to particular hospitals and particular spending. It means that we have to match them against what we are paying for at the particular stage of development. If you will allow, I will have a report prepared which will distil, as accurately as we can, the figures, or separate the figures in relation to chronic care and convalescent care insofar as they relate to—

Mrs. M. Renwick: Hospital spending.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence:—our total grants on hospital construction or redevelopment.

Mrs. M. Renwick: On January 25, 1971, Thomas Wells, the Minister of Health, said in a press statement:

At the next sitting of the Legislature, it is my intention to present a detailed statement outlining the guidelines and the principles for the development of a comprehensive health services programme for the people of Ontario.

This was part of a big press conference, setting up machinery for regulating the various professional and paramedical groups. Will the new minister honour this pledge?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Shall items 1, 2 and 3 of vote 706 carry?

Mr M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, there is one matter of clarification that I would like to take up with the minister. It has to do with the hospital at Hanover and the two other hospitals which have been associated with it this past number of months, namely, the Durham hospital and the Chesley hospital. Mr. Pitman was talking about regional planning and I gather that the hospital in Hanover was part of a design, a regional design, whereby a regional hospital would be built in the town of Hanover. Having said that, I also understand that it was the plan to phase out the Chesley hospital and the Durham hospital.

I think there has now been some change in plans with respect to that original design.

I am wondering if I could have some information as to what the current status of that plan is? In other words, I understand that the Durham hospital is going to remain. What is the status of the Chesley hospital? Is it going to stay in operation?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: It would be in operation for some period of time. It could be in operation for an indefinite period of time. The question, when you are dealing with a situation such as Durham, Hanover or Chesley, is not so much whether the hospitals will remain or be redeveloped or renewed or rebuilt; it is what role they are going to play. At the moment, the question of the role of the Chesley hospital has to be assessed and reassessed in relationship to a better health delivery system in the area. I see no reason for people to be disturbed by the thought that we would close Chesley hospital unless the day comes, and who knows when it might come, that there is an adequate role for a hospital there. I see no reason to expect that anywhere in the immediate future.

Mr. Gaunt: All right. Let me pose the question, what is the role presently of the Durham hospital? What is the vision of the commission with respect to that hospital? Is it going to remain an active treatment hospital?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes, for the foreseeable future, certainly.

Mr. Gaunt: What about the Chesley hospital?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Chesley hospital is a smaller hospital, as I recall. It is an older hospital and its facilities are not comparable to those of the Durham hospital, which means that its role is not to be rebuilt or reused as a total active treatment hospital. Therefore, for its role in the complex, if you want to call it that, of the three of the region, I would have to reflect on its limited abilities to cope. Beyond that point we would be speculating.

Mr. Gaunt: Given those facts then, what is going to happen to the new hospital in Hanover? I understand that it was originally designed to be a 100-bed hospital. Now is that plan going forward? Is it still going to remain as such?

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Yes.

Mr. Gaunt: Then what we have is a shift in the design, insofar as the role of the Durham hospital is concerned and, at the same time, the same size of hospital is going to be built in Hanover? Perhaps Mr. Martin could answer this—would the commission not feel under those circumstances a 100-bed hospital in Hanover would be, what is the term, oversubscribed?

Mr. Martin: The point that is involved in the sizing here is that in the modern practice of medicine there is a certain size at which the full supportive services can be built in to serve properly the people in an area. The planning has been that with the size of the Hanover hospital there can be provided not only the good supportive services but the kind of skilled people that have to go with this.

Here, we are talking about radiologists, pathologists, clinical pathologists, the type of supportive services that are very essential to the very active treatment type of thing that will go on. When these facilities are

available, and this type of high-quality sophisticated clinical material is available, this will attract people, obviously, from a fairly wide area. This has been taken into consideration in relation to the sizing of that hospital at the present time.

Mr. Gaunt: You feel that there still is a role for a 100-bed hospital in Hanover? As long as you leave the Chesley and Durham hospital alone?

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say to Mr. Martin that he should not think that we have nothing to say about his department, and that because we finished this particular estimate in three hours does not mean we did not give him a thorough going over in the last week and a half. Thanks to the forbearance of the Chairman who saw fit to permit us to have a little more leeway than other more autocratic and domineering Chairmen do, we got through these estimates.

I do charge the chairman of the Ontario Hospital Services Commission to read Hansard—we will even supply a free copy if he cannot get one from the minister—because we did thoroughly go over a lot of the shortcomings in this particular sphere of responsibility during this past week and a half.

Vote 706 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: In the Chairman's remarks just before we adjourn, I want to thank you for your co-operation and also for your contributions. I might say that I want to congratulate you, Mr. Minister, as the new minister, in the way that you have handled yourself.

Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, gentlemen.

Mr. Chairman: This completes the estimates of The Department of Health.

The committee adjourned at 5:20 o'clock, p.m.

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Social and
Family Services

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, May 27, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1971

The committee met at 3:40 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. O. F. Villeneuve in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES

Mr. Chairman: We have sufficient number for a quorum. We are on the estimates of The Department of Social and Family Services, on page 270.

Vote 2001 has nine items. Mr. Minister, you perhaps will want to make some announcement? Do you want to take the whole programme of 2001 at once or itemize it?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to take the whole programme at once under each vote. I do not have any opening remarks. As the hon. members are quite well aware, I have been minister of this department only since March 1, and I would be most happy to discuss and talk about the programme and the expenditures of the department, which total about \$354,961,000, as we progress through them.

I think that is the way I would prefer to handle it. I will be happy to discuss any of the programmes or any of the subject matters under each of the three programme votes as we call them in our department.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Braithwaite.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Chairman, like the minister, I intend to be quite brief in my opening remarks this afternoon. I have listened to the minister and his comments as to his being new in the department. I want to wish him well in his new portfolio. He has had the advantage of coming from The Department of Health and he will now no doubt see the advantages of total co-operation between those services which are partly health and partly welfare.

I note in passing, Mr. Chairman, that the United States has a single department of health, education and welfare, and that for Ontario, my leader has at various times

proposed the amalgamation of The Departments of Education and Correctional Services. There are sound rationales for each of these approaches. There is not too much sense in keeping these associated services in watertight departments, as I am sure the minister will be the first to recognize.

Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, when the minister is replying to the opening statements of the critics for both parties, he might be able to shed some light on whether or not there is anything definite about the two Departments of Health, and Social and Family Services, being amalgamated.

Further to the minister's statement on general welfare assistance made in the House this afternoon, I would like to make a few observations on the role of government in breaking up the family unit, a trend which has now obviously been recognized. It does not seem to be a deliberate policy, but rather a consequence of a series of isolated decisions, not all of them made by this department, of course, nor even by this level of government.

In total, however, they have the effect of breaking up traditional bonds and often putting nothing worthwhile in their place. For example, Mr. Chairman, the changes in severance procedure that came from The Department of Municipal Affairs had the effect of driving all but one son off the family farm and weakening the bond of the soil.

According to the various Hedlin Menzies reports on farm policy, this was not only inevitable but even desirable, since vertical integration of farming as an industry was rendering the family farm inefficient and non-competitive, and would soon make it all but obsolete. But depopulating the countryside has had the severe side effects that the minister is well aware of. As the displaced people move into the cities they find they do not have the necessary background or training for urban life and work, and they become a charge upon his department or upon the municipalities who then call out that they can no longer shoulder the growing welfare burden without the assistance from higher levels of government.

I do not have to remind the minister, Mr. Chairman, that John Anderson, the welfare commissioner for Metro, has been saying the same thing; the chairman of the committee has been saying the same thing. There is no doubt they are going to be very short in their budget. Perhaps the minister might be able to say whether or not his department has any plans for any interim assistance to Metro and to other urban or large centres where there has been a shortfall in funds necessary to look after the heavy caseload that has resulted from unemployment and from the very bad winter.

So it happens that a decision that suits agricultural policy and community planning branch policy in The Department of Municipal Affairs becomes merely a shifting of the burden of social responsibility to this department and to this minister.

Mr. Chairman, this problem is further aggravated by the influx of people from other provinces into Ontario. As the welfare burden passes well beyond the scope of the cities, we have to ask ourselves what will become of welfare as we know it today. How will the philosophy change? A recent poll of my constituents shows that a majority of them are still against the concept of a guaranteed annual income.

In fact, Mr. Chairman, we sent out something like 28,000 questionnaires in my particular riding. Of those who replied to this particular question—and the question was, “Do you believe there is a need for reform of our social welfare system?”—we had something like 1,175 in favour of the fact that reform is necessary. Opposed were only 19 and only 49 were undecided.

It is quite clear that taking my particular constituency as a representative group of people in Ontario, some sort of reform is necessary.

Proceeding further on that, the next question that we asked them in this particular questionnaire was, “Would you be in favour of some sort of consolidation of all present welfare schemes under one single programme?”

The replies to that were: Yes—946; no—120; undecided—164. So that definitely the people in my particular part of Metropolitan Toronto were in favour of some sort of consolidation of the whole question of welfare. But when we got down to the question of the guaranteed annual income, as I mentioned earlier, only 410 people of the ones who answered that particular question were

in favour of the guaranteed annual income. In opposition, we had something like 742 people and nearly 200 people were undecided. It is obvious that the people are not quite ready at this time for a guaranteed annual income.

The minister will recall that I spoke on this topic some two years ago. Since that time I have found that a prerequisite to the introduction of any form of guaranteed annual income would have to be a sustained, educational, public relations programme to explain how things are changing in terms of scale; in terms of automation rendering former jobs untenable; in terms of technological unemployment carrying no stigma; and in defining the attitudes that are oversimplified today as traditional pride in self-sufficiency.

In fact, if I can pause for a moment, Mr. Chairman, I might say that most of the people who were opposed to the idea of a guaranteed annual income were definitely afraid of it being abused by the public in general. They were quite concerned that if such a programme were introduced by a government in Ontario or in Canada, there might not be any overall saving, or there might not be any consolidation of the different departments of government. In effect we might just be adding another layer of bureaucracy in the whole welfare system. Obviously, there is some need for a public relations programme, if the minister has anything like reform in mind.

Mr. Chairman, perhaps many people who have always fended for themselves and have supported their families through high school and even university, have managed to avoid contact with those areas of production employment where technology hits hardest in terms of layoffs. Extending sympathy and realizing that every welfare recipient is not necessarily a freeloader on the public purse but that most are genuine victims of circumstance is perhaps the hardest public relations job that this minister must face in the coming years. He will need the help and co-operation of his federal and municipal colleagues in this to an extent that has not hitherto been evident. It is clear that the shape and pattern of welfare must now change, but how can the new ideas be put across to a public which is still largely unsympathetic because the extent of the changes that have occurred in society have been hidden from public view and consciousness?

On that point, Mr. Chairman, I might mention that I was amazed by the outraged views and the unsympathetic letters which

came in because of the questionnaire I mentioned. It is quite definite that in Metropolitan Toronto there seems to be a definite hardening of attitudes and a restless desire for the government to do something to break this question of the poverty cycle.

I think so many people wrote in saying "Put them to work" that it is quite obvious that they really do not understand, or nobody has really tried to tell them, to explain to the average person who pays taxes and who is concerned about the cost of welfare and the cost of social policies, that there should be some sort of understanding on their part, and that it is not always the fault of the individual who is having hard times and who has to come to welfare for assistance.

Mr. Chairman, the second factor I want to touch upon is the effect of our educational and particularly our university policies, on welfare growth and family patterns. Technically, the Ontario Student Award Programme is not the concern of this department at all. Yet the minister must know, and his staff will confirm, that the impact of the recent interpretations of student awards on middle-class families has been to help break up these families, since it is not to their financial advantage to stay together.

In fact, Mr. Chairman, if I may twist an old phrase to fit today's circumstances of taxation and subsidy, I might say that "the family that stays together, starves together."

The federal budget and provincial policies work together to aggravate the situation. It is to the advantage of a working woman to file her own tax return, and, indeed, she is compelled to do so if her earnings exceed a certain fixed small amount. Similarly, children who work to gain Ontario Student Award eligibility, file their own tax returns. Soon, the family is no longer operating as a single cohesive unit, but each member is going his or her own way, with individual social insurance documents, individual passports, individual tax returns, and so on.

And it is clear that we must soon legislate individual responsibility in virtually all areas of life at age 18. Indeed, Mr. Chairman, the minister's statement today only covers children between 16 and 18, although people will be far from having finished their training for life when they become technically responsible for their own actions. In fact, this will switch the burden from the natural parents to the state, at age 18, for all who cannot, at that age, stand on their own two feet. As technology advances, calling for more detailed and longer initial training and ever higher

qualifications, it will be beyond the capability of man to fashion any other solution.

But today's statement by the minister certainly foreshadows general legislation in the works to tie everything into a neat bundle at age 18. Perhaps in the minister's reply he may have something for us as to his views on the lowering of the general age of responsibility to 18, and what plans his department and the government as a whole might have for the same.

It is significant, too, and not just symbolic, that there are no family fireplaces in the new highrise apartments. In fact, it becomes ever more difficult to accommodate overnight family visitors. All too often when parents show up they must stay in a nearby hotel or motel. The estrangement is completed by the physical difficulty of just being together, as a large family unit, in the city. Consequently, the large units disperse and the family spirit is lost, and nothing takes its place.

I am not pretending that the minister ought to have a ready-made answer to these problems I am setting out, but he may wish to air some of his thoughts and ideas when I have finished. What I think we have to do—and these surroundings ought to make it more possible, in a quiet committee room rather than in the large chamber upstairs—is to look at the estimates this year not so much in a bickering mood as in one of asking whether the money to be spent will really achieve these larger social goals.

And before we can do that, we have to know what these goals are, as this government sees them. The philosophy of this department was never clearly articulated by the minister's predecessor. For too long the department has merely reacted to situations as they came up. Now we need an overview, we need guidelines, directions, the things that have hitherto been conspicuous by their absence.

For example, will the minister further amplify his ideas about the imposition of a minimum residential period in Ontario before welfare becomes payable to indigent persons? And I mention that here, Mr. Chairman, because we all have read in the newspapers of the trouble they are having in New York State, and the difficulty that just such a law has brought not only to the assembly there as a body, but to the State as a whole.

There has been a great deal of misunderstanding, and perhaps it would behoove the minister to let us know just what his department has in mind and how it is going to go about it. And since they will have to stay—

and we are speaking now again about the indigents—alive in the interim, while some sort of decision is made, how will the minister be certain that he is not just passing the buck to private agencies, such as the Salvation Army?

We in this party could not countenance any actual suffering and this would mean that the deterrent would have to be fully advertised throughout Canada and perhaps throughout the United States. Now, how do you do that without destroying Ontario's traditional image of hospitality? The place where we would all rather be. You can see that there are no simple solutions, only "simplistic" ones that will not stand up to analysis.

Similarly, how can we bring in, either at the provincial level or in co-operation with the federal government, realistic patterns of retraining for real jobs that will exist after technology has wiped out the old ones? My mail shows a tremendous desire on the part of my correspondents for retraining as a condition of any guaranteed annual income payment. But retraining in itself can be frustrating and deadly if the jobs for which courses are designed themselves disappear in short order.

And it is still true that the devil finds work for idle hands to do. The devil's work today seems to be pollution of the environment, and this is carried out as much by individuals killing time as by industry, in terms of nuisance if not in terms of scale.

I am convinced that we have to have definite ideas on what kind of retraining government ought to undertake. What type of counselling should the family unit receive? How is the poverty cycle to be broken so that the young people coming up in life can get out and become self-supporting and the welfare rolls reduced?

Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the community colleges ought to be the focus of this? Ought there to be advice given to those about a certain age, before they embark on long and arduous courses, that the chances of employment at the end are small? We have all had the experience of competent people writing to say that they have had 300 or 400 negative replies to job applications; and it is all tied up with age, and pension plans, and salary scales which are weighted so that a manager can only have a certain percentage of his people near the maximum at any given time.

So this word "over-qualified" which we hear so often these days, is really the code

word which expresses all the very real difficulties that management faces in trying to place senior and well qualified people, but people whose ideas have jelled, have firmed up, in an organization that must be balanced and flexible and capable of being moulded by the will of management along lines which older employees find not to their liking or ingrained habit of thought. And this problem, Mr. Chairman, has been much apparent this particular winter where many people who have been in jobs for 25 or 30 years have been laid off by plant closings, and for many other reasons. They are having an awful time getting back into the mainstream of employment. These people are some of those placing a strain on this minister's department, along with the young people coming out of school, as I mentioned earlier.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to comment on the special report in the Toronto Daily Star of May 22, regarding the possible transfer by Metro of its senior citizens' housing to the OHC.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that this is something that ought not to be lightly accepted. It is relevant here because of its grave social consequences. It is important that the administration of this kind of accommodation be close to the level of the people concerned. This, then, is a proper function of local government, and we ought not to be partners in any diminution of local autonomy. The OHC has recently been the scene of many noisy and unproductive confrontations with its tenants. In fact, when the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Grossman) made his statement today in the House I do not think anybody could say he was trying to be quiet and co-operative about it. He carried the very type of uproar that I am talking about, the very policy of confrontation, into the House, in fact he seems to revel in it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, that is not very kind.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am just making a comment, Mr. Chairman. I say that the OHC—

Hon. Mr. Wells: He was just giving a nice non-political statement.

Mr. Braithwaite: Will you let me finish, please? The OHC and its tenants seem—

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): If that is fact, what would you call politics?

Mr. Braithwaite: —seem to be in the process of confrontation. Now, the lobby of the OHC building has been a convenient theatre

for guerrilla activity on the part of those political parties and organizations who specialize in taking a legitimate grievance and developing it for other and quite unrelated purposes. These organizations play to the media, and the media oblige by presenting themselves promptly with cameras and flash equipment, with microphones and film and tape and, before you know it, the whole thing has been distorted and amplified out of all proportion, and is in every living room in Metro.

Mr. Chairman, the old people, our senior citizens, are rightly disgusted with that sort of thing. They want to live out their lives in peace and quiet, and they have a right to do so. We should help them to do so. We should protect them from any possible exploitation.

One way we can do this is to keep the housing responsibility at the Metro level. If there are any abuses at that level, we shall soon know about them and we can take the necessary corrective action. But to take away the autonomy merely to relieve Metro of its financial burden at the same time that Metro is crying for autonomy in so many other fields, would be wrong, I submit.

Well, Mr. Chairman, those are my few brief opening remarks. I and other members of my party will have other comments as the individual votes are proceeded with.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister, do you have a reply?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, would it not be more convenient to reply after we have heard all the opening remarks?

Mr. Chairman: Do you want to speak for your group, Mrs. Renwick?

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to go back to my first year as critic of this department when we had a 20-minute leadoff and I pointed out very clearly that the problem of the department is that it is looking down a blank alleyway with no goals, no set plans for removing people from welfare rolls.

In the leadoff the next year I took it upon myself to try to pinpoint what happens to the millions of dollars, over \$100 million, that comes annually from the federal government under the Canada Assistance Plan into the provincial coffers and then what happens to it at the local level. The government was bombarded from all sides about the matter of the cost of living and the fact that the budgets

at that time were still purchasing only what they would purchase in 1967 because the budgetary requirements had not been reviewed.

A review was forthcoming but, much to the disappointment of people like myself and my colleagues, the review that came forward brought a 6.5 per cent increase whereas all of us had faced a 12 per cent increase in cost of living. It came forward with a focus on a \$10 increment of housing increase, whereas we were looking at housing increases of 18 per cent.

We do not know to this day how many families required that extra \$10—in other words, were paying more for their shelter than they had been allowed for some time. I ask the minister at the end of these remarks today to be certain to let us know how many families required that \$10 supplement, or how many families obtained it in the first month, which would be the month of May, 1970.

From there we learned the bulk of this increment and increase was going to long-overdue cases, the disabled and the blind, and those condemned to wheelchairs. We found from there that it left very little in the food budget, very little in the pre-added budget of food, clothing and personal care. When we got down to examining that, we found it was about 10 cents per day per person in each family.

Now, Mr. Minister, through you, Mr. Chairman, there is no reason why this government could not have recognized the spiralling index increase that we were all facing and could not have brought in a proper increased cost-of-living bonus to these pre-added budgets. The pre-added budget has been a mystery to all of us; it has never been allowed to be broken down for any of us.

We still do not know—although the government did not challenge the figures I used when I finally got a breakthrough—but we still do not know how many dollars of our pre-added budgets actually go toward food. I think this is essential and I think, Mr. Minister, the time has come when the cloak has to come off the nutritionist who says that families can live on the required number of dollars that are allocated under the pre-added budgets. If they can live on those dollars, then they should be published.

In the meantime, the government was busy making its report to the Senate committee on poverty. It made such a pathetic report that it was a useless document. The welfare council, which had its meeting here in June of last year, was asking for a pilot project of

the guaranteed annual income and was suggesting it locate it in Ottawa. We have had no word that this government is willing in any way to experiment in the pilot project of the guaranteed annual income.

We have a Gallup poll showing that 61 per cent endorsed the idea of a network of day nurseries. We do not have a network of day nurseries; we have thousands of mothers going to work without proper care for children.

I think, Mr. Minister, the time has come at this time to look to see what we are really doing to these families, what we are really doing to the people who are seeking welfare and seeking family benefits.

If one looks under family benefits, at the widowed mother with children or the deserted wife with children, we find that we give her X number of dollars to live upon which we know is inadequate, and we have not proved otherwise. She lives on those dollars and, as each child becomes of certain age, that child can leave the family and leave the care of the provincial government. And as each other child rises to that age, then it finally leaves a woman who has scrimped and scrimped all of her life to live on budgets that have not met normal family necessities.

If you look at the men who are on unemployment—and at city hall this morning the increase was 50 per cent over this time last year of the employable people—where do these men come from? What are we doing to them when the only thing they have is welfare?

They come from layoffs. They come from where they have worked for many, many years of their lives. They come from workmen's compensation cases that have now run out, and they come into the welfare realm and they are degraded to suddenly being a useless, taskless person, left to sit at home and draw from the coffers of the provincial government.

This is what is wrong. The Canada Assistance Plan has not been utilized by this province the way it should have been. There has been no prevention programme of partial assistance toward poverty, and definitely no rehabilitative programme which could be possible under the Canada Assistance Plan.

So I say, Mr. Minister, that the government has failed completely. It has added millions of dollars to its budget this year, but if it is indeed spending them in the same fashion as it has recently, there will still be pathetic calls like one I received yesterday where a mother on mother's allowance had

not received the \$30 stipend which her husband is to send her each month, so she was left with five days of the month without any food for her children, and was told by her worker, "Do you have brown sugar in the house? Put it on bread and that will look after the children."

Mr. Chairman, when I spoke to the administrator of the family benefits for that particular worker, that was not the attitude at all. The attitude was, "We will get some food and some assistance to this lady."

But we have got a long way to go before we bring any dignity into the lives of the people that are dependent on general welfare assistance, and apparently still have as far to go in family benefits.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, I would like to comment on Mr. Braithwaite's comments.

I would say first that I welcome the spirit in which he made them. I think that this is certainly an area where there can be much productive discussion on perhaps a more amicable basis and less of an adversary basis in some areas. I recognize that the frailties of political in-fighting probably make it necessary for us to engage in more heated discussions from time to time, but I certainly welcome the kind of spirit and approach which he suggested.

As I indicated, I have only been minister of this department since March 1, and it is, of course, pretty hard to become—well, it is hard to ever become an expert in these fields, but it is hard in that short time to become even knowledgeable to the extent that I can present some concrete solutions to what are obviously some of the very pressing problems in the whole social assistance and social welfare field. I hope that out of the discussions we have here today together we will perhaps arrive at some consolidation of opinion that will guide us in our planning in the next year.

The first comment that Mr. Braithwaite made about consolidation into one department rather than two departments, of course, is perhaps something that I should not comment on. Rather it should be commented upon by the Prime Minister (Mr. Davis) or someone concerned with the organization of government.

It seems to me though that when I look around the different provinces in this country I find a kind of cycle happening. The

provinces are putting their departments together in some areas now, and then after they have been together for a certain length of time, the trend is to separate them again. We seem to find this going on, that sometimes—

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): It is a make-work project.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well yes, a make-work project within the government, and I suppose this is inevitable and it is what is going to happen.

So what I am really saying is that I do not think it is quite as simple as saying you could take the two of them and put them into one department. I think that you can make a case for a Department of Social Affairs—Social and Family Services as we call it now—for programmes which are—I was going to say unrelated. All programmes of government that concern people are in some way related, as the hon. member mentioned.

He mentioned the decisions of The Department of Municipal Affairs, which have somehow again become related to family situations which become related to family programmes in our department. So programmes in The Department of Health and in this department are going to be of necessity in some degree related, but some of them are more related than others.

I think perhaps there could be some readjustment of responsibilities here, and if you, I suppose, take things like the continuum of care for those in some type of institutional care, you could take the whole homes for the aged, domiciliary care programme and link that with the nursing home extended care hospital system, and build them all into one programme. This is a possibility.

On the other hand, I think there is a distinct possibility, for instance, that the programmes for the retarded, say, should completely come out of Health, because except for a Health component that comes into those programmes where they need certain medical assistance, just as you or I might need medical assistance, the whole problem of the retarded is more a social service problem, a community problem, which could perhaps better be related out of the total health atmosphere and in the total community atmosphere.

Mr. Braithwaite: Not physical education things?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Education perhaps is one component, but there are many things more

closely connected than education, but that is another possibility. You see, we have programmes for the retarded in our department and there are, of course, those in The Department of Health, and there Education looks after the educating of those who fit into other categories.

Anyway, I just use those as illustrations to show that it is not perhaps as simple as saying take one or two departments and put them together into one. There are programmes in various departments that you could readjust, and I think that any government has got to be continually assessing itself and deciding in this rapidly changing era we live in as to where these programmes can best fit together to serve the people. I think that is what we have to remember, not to serve we who are politicians or the people who make up the public service.

The other point that the hon. member dealt with was interim assistance to municipalities. We all recognize that the welfare caseload for municipalities has increased. It has increased because, as Mrs. Renwick mentioned in her experiences at the city hall today, we know that the municipal welfare caseload has increased because of unemployment.

There are all kinds of reasons for this unemployment. Of course a large part of it is due to the anti-inflationary policies of the federal government. They have thrown us into this and they have thrown the municipalities into an economic situation where there are a large number unemployed. There is no question this has caused strains on the municipal welfare budgets.

I cannot tell the hon. member that we have any plans to offer special assistance at this particular time. We are continually looking at it to see if there is some area where we might help them. I recognize it as an unpredicted and an unplanned-for financial burden on them, but all I can say is that we are taking a look at it at this point to see if there is anything that can be done.

As he is probably aware, there is a provision that if over six per cent of the caseload, if the number of cases on welfare goes greater than six per cent of the population of the municipality, there is a provision for special assistance, but none of the municipalities come into this rule, or very few of them, so that particular provision is not of any help to the situation.

Mr. Braithwaite: I thought it was 5.9?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, it is like anything else. You have to get six or over before you qualify. The average over the last six months has to be over six per cent. These are the kind of things we are taking a look at to see if that is a variable rule or if there are other things. We recognize that we have to go to the Legislature and ask for a supplemental budget amount in order to cover our costs, and the federal government presumably had to do the same thing. They share 50 per cent of the costs all across Canada and they were far beyond their expectations, and the municipalities were to a degree left with nowhere to go except run a deficit and then put it in this fiscal year's budgeting. What we want to see is how the picture is developing out and I understand they are showing a decrease in Metro, anyway, for the last month it was reported.

Mr. Braithwaite: Does the minister have any particular plans in mind if he should find out, say, something—does he have any ideas?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was just sort of giving you an overview. Perhaps when we get into the actual vote we can talk about specifics on this thing here. The other thing that the hon. member talked about was the guaranteed annual income. I would have to agree with him in that at this point in time in our society—I would agree with him and, in this case, the hon. John Munro, and I guess the federal government—but I think that a guaranteed annual income on a universal basis is more than our society fiscally could bear.

As I say, I have not been in this portfolio long enough to really be able to talk about it in a very in-depth manner, but in the very preliminary discussions that I get into on it, it certainly makes me realize that I need to know a lot more about it and I would like to see a lot more expert opinion about it, because I still see certain things missing from what people call a guaranteed annual income. It sounds good when you say it, and when you describe it in a couple of words, but I have had some in-depth talks with the people in the province of Quebec about their programme.

When you talk to them, they do not refer to it as a guaranteed annual income, the one they hope to introduce; in fact, they stay away from using that term, they merely call it a new social assistance programme, a different way of providing social assistance. But

in every one of these programmes we get into, when I start looking at them I see the work incentive feature missing, and when one asks about this, the people who are planning these programmes agree and they say: "This is the biggest hurdle we have to overcome. There does not seem to be any real incentive to work in this programme."

Now, I guess that boils down to whether you accept that there should be or should not be. I guess if your philosophy is that the work incentive does not matter, then this becomes more simple for you to accept, but I happen to accept or feel that there should be a work incentive in there. I feel that most people in this country at this time still believe that a good adequate job is a far better thing than a transfer payment, and that is what they would like to have, and our efforts should be directed in this way.

Mr. Braithwaite: Perhaps when we get to research the minister might amplify his remarks there and give us some idea of some of the suggestions his people are giving to him. Does the minister not have views of his own as to what the incentives might be?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, well we can talk about this when we get along to it.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Research and planning is under this vote. It is under the very first vote, we are on it now.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, well that is fine with me. We can carry right on. All I was merely doing was commenting on a few of the comments made by the hon. member.

I think that that probably would finish them. The other thing that was mentioned was the age of 18. I think that this is still one thing that the government as a whole is very actively considering. The part we did today about teenagers on welfare is just one small part of what has to be a total study of the age of majority, and you remember the report of the Law Reform Commission on this outlined all the various things that came into play and have to be considered. There are a multitude of Acts and changes that would have to be made, many of them affecting this department? This is the thing, a total government policy on this is being developed and when it is developed all our programmes will then fit into it, but there certainly is a predominant thinking or movement toward 18 as the age of majority. That is just my personal observation and the government study is going on.

Mr. Braithwaite: Could the minister state why he chose the age of 18 today in the statements that he made, when he said students between the ages of 16 and 18 are the ones he is referring to? What about the students of 19 or 20?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I guess what we are saying is, for our particular purposes we are now adopting 18 as an age of majority in this programme, rather than 16. I am sure that the hon. member, being a lawyer, is aware, for instance, of some of the things that, quite frankly, in my mind, do not jibe in this whole problem. The Child Maintenance Act says that it is the responsibility of a parent to maintain his child up to 16. I would presume if you adopt the universal age of majority as 18 you would have to change that Act and make it 18.

In The Child Welfare Act, which provides the umbrella under which all the services and protection of children are carried on, everything goes up to the age of 16 and stops there. Quite frankly, to my mind, there are just too many different ages in too many different pieces of legislation and I think we have to make up our minds where we should say a person stops being a child, or under the umbrella of legislation is a minor, and then make up our mind beyond what point he is not, then have the complete treatment of him as an adult beyond that age. Of course, now we are all mixed up.

Mr. Braithwaite: Could the minister, then, on that very point, tell me whether his department is actively doing research into the ramifications of changing the age groups, say, with reference to the Child Welfare Act—the Act you just mentioned. Is something being done?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, we are, of course, part of the total government study of this. Naturally, every department which has programmes or legislation that would be affected is part of the total government study of the age of majority which is going on now.

The other point that the member raised is, he talked about the residency requirements for those to receive assistance programmes. We are studying that to see if there is a necessity or any need for this type of thing insofar as it applies to those outside Canada. There is no way we would institute in this province the kind of residency requirement the State of New York has because firstly we could not under the Canada Assistance Plan, and I do not think we would insofar as it affects residents of Canada.

The Canada Assistance Plan is, I think, very explicit that there shall be no provincial barriers. In other words, a person from the Maritimes—and perhaps after that story this morning some more of them will be coming up here—of course is entitled to come here and there is no residency requirement. As I say, I do not believe there should be, insofar as Canadians are concerned. Our review is merely to see if there should be any residency requirement for those outside the country before they are eligible for assistance, and we have not arrived at any conclusions on that.

Mr. Braithwaite: What did the minister have in mind when he gave his press conference and brought this matter up?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The very thing that I just indicated to you right now: whether there should be a residency requirement for people from outside the country.

Mr. Deans: What prompted you to make—

Mr. Braithwaite: That is what I am trying to find out.

Mr. Deans: What prompted you to make that statement, other than simply the feeling that maybe there might be some person out there who is getting assistance who ought not to be.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was asked in the House if I would make a review of this, if the hon. member will recall, and that is what prompted me. Then I was asked by the press if I had my answer to that statement yet. I indicated, no I did not, but that we were taking a look at it and it was possible in our review that we might suggest some residency requirement for people from outside the country.

Mr. Deans: How far have you gone in your review?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have gone to the extent of looking at ways the legislation could be changed.

Mr. Deans: No, how far have you gone in the reviews to determine whether or not there is any abuse at the present time?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is pretty difficult to find out if there is any abuse. I think it is a case of trying to find out if the people, if our people, want assistance payments to begin effective the day they come here—for instance, for someone who does not live in this country.

For instance, you are not entitled to get hospital and medical coverage the day you arrive here; you have a three-month waiting period, I believe. There are various restrictions like this. Now, should there be something like that? That is what we are looking at.

Mr. Braithwaite: I recall reading in the Telegram I believe it was, I believe it was by Ron Haggart, something to the effect that if the draft dodgers did not go on welfare they would be deported anyway. Would the minister make this clear; I was not too sure what—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You know, you can talk and use “draft dodgers.” This got built up out of all proportion there of course. They are only a sample of many in the group who immigrate to this country. This, I suppose, is a possibility. I have read this in editorials and comments about this, that no one would abuse it because if they went on assistance they would be deported. We have yet to be able to find any examples of this.

Mr. Deans: Of deportation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of deportation.

Mr. Deans: Let me help you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of deportation because they went on public assistance.

Mr. Deans: I will give you an example.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, we would be happy, because we were not able to come up with that.

Mr. Deans: I suggest then that you—I cannot recall the name but I will check it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but you are sure it is just public assistance—

Mr. Braithwaite: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. B. Newman) told me about cases in Windsor and down there it happens more than, say, in Toronto. It is very difficult for anybody to get welfare if you are a—I do not like to use the word “draft dodger,” because the ones who are poor are called draft dodgers. If you are better off you—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes but—

Mr. Braithwaite: Now wait a minute, wait a minute—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know, but I am just saying let us not—

Mr. Braithwaite: Wait a minute, let me just finish now, let me finish—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am just saying let us not just limit this to America.

Mr. Braithwaite: Now let me finish. We are also supposed to be nice and quiet, so let me finish. Now if the individual is able to afford to go to school up here, or in some way do something that is considered productive by society, he is not called a draft dodger. But I am concerned that an individual who might have a bona fide need and a bona fide desire for some sort of assistance is turned away. This is why I wondered, why did the minister bring the whole thing up to begin with? I just am trying to look into the minister's mind to determine, Mr. Chairman, what he had in mind?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I thought I just explained it to you. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) asked me in the House, I told you, on May 7:

Can he tell me what time limits are necessary to be fulfilled before a person coming into this country from another country would be eligible to apply for welfare services? Do they have the right to apply immediately they enter or is there some waiting period?

And I indicated that I did not have that answer immediately at hand when he asked, and I commented about a judge in British Columbia—which had obviously prompted this question, because it has received publicity in the press—who had been amazed when, I guess, he was sentencing somebody when he had asked them what their financial support was, and the answer they said was that they were on welfare. And he wondered how they could have got welfare so quickly.

Then Mr. Nixon asked me:

Would the minister not agree, however, that in cases where immigrants or people without landed immigrant status have come over from the United States, there should be some responsibility on the part of The Department of Social and Family Services as well as the federal Department of Manpower and Immigration to see that they are not coming in here from the United States unless they have the wherewithal to look after themselves for at least a few weeks?

And I suggested I would agree and would look into it and make a report on it. That is the genesis of the beginning of the thing. As I say, you know my friend is aware just as I am that once these questions are asked in the House you receive a call weekly from the press asking if you have the answer to the question.

Mr. Braithwaite: You have a lot of staff; you should have an answer by now.

Mr. Deans: This immigration situation of course is an entirely different thing. We are encouraging even yet, encouraging people to immigrate to Canada knowing full well that there is not employment for them. Regardless whether you say that people must have sufficient funds for a week or a month, there is no guarantee that having arrived in this country they are going to have an opportunity to work at all.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right, as I said—

Mr. Deans: This is the argument that we had previously.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —you cannot leave them destitute and without some help on the streets, so this is the problem you find. That is why we are looking at the thing. As I say, I find the more I get into it the more muddled it is.

Mr. Deans: The problem is not one of welfare at all.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, it may not be, that is it, it may not be. For instance, let me give you an example, basically I was told that the basic ground rule we use is landed immigrant status. Well I am told we had 15,000 immigrants come in through Toronto and of these about 40 per cent were refused landed immigrant status. But they were given the right to appeal to the immigration authority.

Mr. Deans: That takes time.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They tell me it takes two years to hear the appeal. Now I do not know what happens in the two years. Do they hang around here? This I do not know.

Mr. Deans: They try to get employment but there is none. Then what do you do?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Then, you see, there is also another appeal from the immigration appeal board to some other group and that may take three years they tell me, the waiting period.

Mr. Deans: That is the final appeal to the minister?

Mr. Braithwaite: So what do you do?

Hon. Mr. Wells: So they could be around, you see, and this is why I tell you that I

cannot give you a definite answer now because the deeper I get into this the more I find that it is a complicated problem.

Mr. Deans: The other side to it is one that I raised in the House some time ago with the Minister of Trade and Development, not during this current session but the previous one. In Ontario, we, as the government—"we," meaning you, not me—as the government of Ontario, make available the facilities of Ontario House in parts of the world where Ontario House is located, for the purpose of encouraging people to immigrate to Ontario and to Canada. What in heaven's name is the purpose of doing that? What is the use of doing it at this stage in life when we cannot even provide employment here in Ontario for the people who live here?

And when we are talking continuously about the influx of people from other provinces into Ontario—because no matter where you live it always seems that Ontario looks a little better than where you are—when they get here they find that they cannot get employment either, they too become a burden, not only on the Ontario taxpayer but on the taxpayer in general. The situation probably is—and I am not familiar with the payments made to other parts of the country—but my guess is that the welfare payments in Ontario are probably a little higher than they are in some parts of the country, some other provinces.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think they are higher than most.

Mr. Deans: I say, at least than some. And so the overall cost is much higher if we do not tell the people the truth. And the truth is that you can come here if you like, no one can stop you, but once you get here there is no way that you can live because there is no way for you to get a job. We are just not doing that. We are not being very honest, in actual fact. I want to deal with some other areas in a moment or two, but in this—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but—

Mr. Deans: —particular problem we are not actually facing what the problem is. Mr. Chairman, the problem of handing out a few dollars is a problem that we could overcome simply because we are able to generate the money. But the bringing of people into the country or into the province without giving any consideration to whether or not there

is the possibility for them to be self sufficient, is an entirely different problem and one that you as the Minister of Social and Family Services can deal with—and it must be dealt with by the government as a whole and dealt with by the federal government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was just going to say, at the present time, of course, our regulations do not have any residence requirements. That is why we were studying the matter. What you say is quite right. We cannot deal with the problem of immigration and bringing them—

Mr. Deans: In spite of the political implications of saying that the residence requirements are really not needed, the truth is they are not needed. That is not what is needed at all. If a person is here and they already have landed immigrant status, or are in the process of attempting to get it, and they suddenly become destitute, what do you do? Do you say to them, "You starve"?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right. You have to help them. The only time residency requirements are needed is when it becomes fairly obvious that a large number are coming to a given location in order to get welfare or assistance. In other words this is why the State of New York, I take it, has put their requirement in for not only people from outside the United States but from all the other states in the United States, because it is just an area where everybody is coming. They are just all converging upon New York because their payments are much higher than any other area.

Mr. Braithwaite: The minister suggested he did not have anything in mind as far as people coming from the Maritimes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no. As I say, indeed the Canada Assistance Plan forbids this, or is very explicit that I am sure it would not allow sharing, and the intention and the spirit of the whole plan was that this should not be. That is why residency was removed from it. Now the question is, it does not say anything about residency so we really do not know whether residency from outside Canada would also be not within the spirit of the Canada Assistance Plan. We have not talked to Ottawa about that.

Mr. Braithwaite: When you were talking about minimum lengths of time for residents, how many months did you have in mind?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know, I merely said we would take a look at it, and it may be that it is an unworkable arrangement, or as the hon. member said, it may be that that is not the problem at all. It may be that the problem has got to go deeper than that, into immigration and telling the people what they are to expect here before they get here.

Mr. Deans: Is this a matter that will be dealt with at the constitutional conference, because it is a matter of constitution.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I could not tell you at this point.

Mr. Deans: It seems to me that this is one of those areas. Welfare payment in general, payment to people in general, is one of those areas that has to be sort of standardized across the country, that there has to be a much more standard application of the rules in order that there can be some kind of relationship between immigration and the influx of people and the payments that are made and I wonder if that is something that is discussed.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that eventually we will work towards this, but again it is very difficult to, for instance, standardize across this country because there are different economic levels across the country and of necessity you would impose perhaps a lower level for areas such as this province where the economic conditions necessitate a higher level because the others probably could not afford to go into it.

Mr. Deans: It is possible that it may be a tool to be used to raise the economic standards of other places.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that we recognize this, but there are all kinds of ways. The question is, how do you do it? By the whole method of transfer payments, we hope we are helping a lot of the other provinces to raise their standards.

Mr. Deans: I will come back to this.

Hon. Mr. Wells: In answer to the member for Scarborough Centre and her comments about the goals for our department, as I see it and develop the goals for our department, there are probably a couple of different goals, because we have two really different programmes. We have those programmes which are in the nature of income assistance. Our goals there are to ensure that everybody without access to adequate resources will have a

source of support that will enable him to maintain himself.

Mr. Deans: Something like a guaranteed annual income?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, that is a blanket statement, now.

Mr. Deans: It would work on a weekly basis.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You can call a lot of things a guaranteed annual income. I suppose you could call our family benefits programme some form of a guaranteed annual income, but—

Mr. Deans: But it is not guaranteed. We will talk about that later as well.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I say, that is our basic assumption. Under this programme it is to do that, except that I say the other philosophy that I see applying here is one that adopts the position that a job, some type of work, is preferable to a transfer payment programme and that this should colour and act as a guide as we develop these income maintenance programmes.

In the few months that I have been in the department, I have not had time to develop this in any greater extent. However, I am sure that I will because we are entering into a whole series of federal-provincial conferences. There will be a welfare ministers' conference on June 7 and 8. Then we will probably go from there to discuss welfare as part of the constitution—not welfare, but social assistance. It is part of the constitutional conference in Victoria, so—

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask what is the antithesis to having pilot projects somewhere in the province for a guaranteed annual income?

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is no antithesis to that at all, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member is referring to the programme we were working up. It was not a pilot programme really on a guaranteed annual income. It was a wage income supplementation experiment really to measure this and there is—

Mrs. M. Renwick: Low-income earners.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. There is no antithesis to it. The only reason is that it is still under consideration. This is just one of those things that occurs, I guess, when you change ministers. I have to become familiar with that. I want to know what it is all about and

then I have to sell it to the Treasury Board and to my colleagues. To this point I have not been sufficiently aware and sufficiently ready, to know exactly what we are trying to do with it to be able to do this and, as I say, this is mainly because in the short time that I have been here, you only have so much time. I think there is merit in this project. The one thing I would like to know is, absolutely for sure, that the federal government will share in it. I have not got that assurance yet either. Mr. Munro and I met a short time ago and he indicated some interest in it.

Mr. Deans: Was it an official request?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, it is part of a lot of discussions that we have had going on with them. I hope that officially we will have a definitive answer from them, perhaps at this conference, because there are some other provinces that want to do this kind of thing too. When we have that, then that will enable me to be able to carry the thing forward here.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Well, Mr. Chairman, the minister would be familiar with the results from the Passaic, New Jersey, study and that the work incentive problem that the minister referred to certainly came out in favour of the recipients in the Passaic study. They were quite willing to work as much as they possibly could and earn as much as they possibly could while in receipt of a balance of assistance. That type of pilot project might prove that the work incentive is there, providing the work is there. There are the work activity projects, which we do not take part in either.

Hon. Mr. Wells: In that regard we have some propositions again up to Ottawa and they have not approved them yet.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Work activity projects?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Work activity projects. But now we are talking about an income supplementation experiment here—really a research project, to measure a lot of things.

As I say, there is merit in it and we are still very actively carrying it forward now. I would like to get the federal government's definite assurance of sharing in it, because it does involve a fair sum of money and then we will see.

It is going to be a little different than what was originally suggested. It had been suggested that a group in Ottawa, I think, carry it out. I think we have arrived at the point

where it would be better if it was carried out by our people with some consultants, rather than outside groups sort of being given money to do the thing. Because to make it a more viable research project—and this is what we are looking at—I do not think we should do it in just one city in Ontario. It should be done in perhaps three or four different areas.

I think there are too many people who work for one employer in Ottawa to make it a good viable project. And, of course, my immediate reaction when I first looked at this thing was, "What the heck, if you are going to have an income supplementation programme, why do it in Ottawa, if they are civil servants?" The Ottawa government should raise the pay levels of all these people and not have them have to have their income supplemented if there are civil servants getting less than what they would get on welfare, or on assistance payments.

But anyway, this is the situation of that and it is still very actively going ahead. We have not rejected it.

Mr. Deans: Just on the comments of the minister. I forget that little phrase you used. What was it you said again about encouraging people to work?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean, we feel that a good adequate job is better than a transfer payment?

Mr. Deans: I do too and I am curious to know why then the department does not follow that philosophy within its operation? Now why do you not, throughout your programmes, spend the money to assist the people in getting back into the main stream rather than in subsidizing them, rather than maintaining them on and off?

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I say, that is our basic philosophy. If we are not doing that in some of the programmes, well then I guess I intend to find out and see if we cannot work everything towards this basic philosophy.

Mr. Deans: I happen to be one of those people who believe that the majority of people would work if the opportunity to work was available and if the income that they were going to derive was sufficient to maintain them.

I think there is nothing more soul-destroying than to want to work and to find that the income that you get will not maintain you in the municipality that you happen to be able to get the work in and to know that if you go off welfare, or whatever it is you

are receiving, if you no longer receive that, your total income will be considerably less, even recognizing that the welfare payment that you are getting is not adequate.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are underlining, of course, the very, very basic problem in this whole thing and that is why, I guess, we have to have this research project to test income supplementation and we have to—

Mr. Deans: It is not only a problem of Social and Family Services. This is one of the difficulties.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we are getting into The Department of Labour and minimum wage and so forth.

Mr. Deans: This is right. There is no point in The Department of Social and Family Services advocating these things and talking about the need to encourage people to work, and to have work incentive programmes, and to pay additional benefits to them in order to get them into the workforce, if other departments of government are not involved in ensuring that the income that people can get from working is sufficient to keep them. I think that this is where—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I think the hon. member is quite right. It really does involve so many different areas of government and different departments. For instance, our programmes—the ones that we have now, and indeed any programmes in this area—involve the family as a unit. And so the person who has a large family under our programme would probably find that this very problem he illustrated would even be heightened, because under a large family his allowance would be such whereas if he could get a job the payment for that piece of work would be based, not on the fact that he has a large family but on what that job is worth to him as one individual would—

Mr. Deans: This is where a tightening of the two areas, a tightening of the minimum wage, for example, together with some form of floor for income would guarantee this.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Except the minimum wage might not be possible to overcome that problem. Here I tend to agree with some of the other provinces which are experimenting with this and, in fact, find that perhaps one of the cornerstones to remedying this situation has got to be what is now known as the family allowance but which will have to be expanded.

It would be easy, as the hon. member mentioned about the guaranteed annual income, and as some people think, for us to do away with all other programmes and put them into one. But it seems to me that family allowance in some form, in a much better form than it is now, and in a selective manner that would get at the people who need it, could be one of the vehicles to overcome this problem because that would give to the person with a large family a guarantee of income to bring up those children, so that in addition to the money that he got for working, he would have that compensation to help him. I do not think that we could ever raise the minimum wage to the level that it would cover a man with five, six or eight kids—

Mr. Deans: No, I agree.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —to do a particular job. So that you get at this problem through this particular medium and I think that that is going to be one of the big cornerstones to any programme. That is one of the big parts of the Quebec programme, for instance, the family allowance programme.

Mr. Braithwaite: There was something about the family going to stay together as a cohesive unit.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is my assumption.

Mr. Braithwaite: As I mentioned earlier, I have some doubts as to whether that is a good assumption because the family, as a unit, seems to be breaking up and I am just wondering what is the minister's department doing in research in that area to see what effect this might have on the method of payment or just how he is going to go about whatever he wants to call it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think, I realize and I would have the same concerns as the member does about the family breaking up, but I still think our basic premise is all predicated on keeping the family together and making the family a viable unit. It will be very interesting to see what Mr. Benson does in his tax reforms. It will be interesting to see of he adopts family units or something there.

Mr. Braithwaite: Does that end my question then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think I have dealt with all I want to say, Mr. Chairman. I might say that we have ranged far and wide here. Of course, "main office" is that, but we will get —programme 2 is the programme that deals

with—vote 2 is the one that deals with all the income maintenance.

On vote 2001:

Mr. Braithwaite: If I may, Mr. Chairman, I just thought I would start off with one question. I think we are dealing with something like nearly \$355 million here. I mentioned earlier I am concerned about it being spent wisely. What I would like to start off with, is to ask the minister is there any on-going audit, or any on-going evaluation with people of wide background being pressed into service to comment on the continuing validity of programmes in changed circumstances? In other words, does the minister's department have any way by which the various programmes, the research programmes, the spending of the money by different sections of this department, are evaluated from time to time? We have the Provincial Auditor, certainly, but is there a watchdog for Social and Family Services who is the equivalent of the federal government's Maxwell Henderson who really is on the scent of any extravagance after the initial approval of the project is given? In other words, the minister no doubt is aware of the fact that it is such a large department that he could not do it himself. I am wondering if he or one of his assistants could point out in detail just how this is done in his particular department?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, of course, Mr. Chairman, there are several different things that occur. First, of course, is that the member uses the terms, "the equivalent of the federal government's watchdog." There is our own Provincial Auditor here who audits and keeps a watch to be sure that everything that is spent in the department is within the budget and the appropriations that are allowed. This general government watchdog over all spending applies to our department as it does to all departments.

If the hon. member is thinking of something a little beyond that, more in the area of the programme aspect, we are developing some fairly sophisticated systems within government—what do we call them?—PPBS, Planned Programme Budgeting Systems. I am not an accounting type and I cannot explain them to you but if the member would like to have Mr. McCaig, the executive director of finance and administration explain it to him, I would be glad to have him do so.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is he here?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, Mr. McCaig. This is in regard to auditing and general procedures of the department's expenditures.

Mr. Braithwaite: What I am thinking about really, as I mentioned, is not so much that everything adds up and that there is a trial balance at the end. This is to be expected. I am thinking that if you have a particular project going on, how do you keep it from expanding beyond what was originally in the mind of the department by the minister? How is a check kept—a watchdog type of check—on the various areas in the minister's department so that things are kept in control? This is basically what I want. What is the procedure? How is it done?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are talking about programmes and their constant evaluation?

Mr. Braithwaite: Revaluation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Are they meeting the goals that were set up under the programme?

Mr. Braithwaite: Perhaps if he could mention it and if he could say how it is done I would like to hear it.

Mr. Deans: I have no doubt at all that the department does not spend a penny more than it has to.

Mr. A. McCaig (Financial and Administrative Services Division): First of all, the newly designed system of programme budgeting in the process of being implemented and known within the Ontario government as PPBS—Planning, Programming and Budgeting System—is a system which is sequential in its nature from the standpoint of taking as its first premise an examination of determining what it is that one is trying to achieve. It tries to determine the various ways by which those objectives can be described, the alternate ways and means of attaining them, what resources are required to attain those objectives and the way that cost benefit analysis can be applied to determine first of all the particular objective which is set up as being the most desirable, and the best way in which it can be achieved if it is in effect the most efficient way of carrying on the programme.

In this process there must also, of course, be set up evaluation criteria—in two different ways—which the hon. member is probably referring to. How do you evaluate the kinds and nature and extent of resources to apply to the particular programmes or investments that you are going to make on the one hand, and how do you evaluate the product or the

output from those projects to make sure that you are in fact attaining the objectives set in the most efficient manner?

This whole programme is in the process of being implemented and in fact it is only in the development stage in the department. This is a continuing programme. We have just recently set up a branch as the programme co-ordination branch to do this very thing and it is just in its initial stages.

Having arrived at a particular programme and it being funded through the estimate procedures and appropriations, these funds then of course are made available to the department and the audit branch conducts various types of audits both internally within the department's organizations and externally with the various agencies. The objective here, of course, is to determine and ensure that the various benefits of the various legislation are in fact being administered in the way that it is intended they be administered under the legislation, that the benefits are in fact properly calculated, and in fact there is not only entitlement, but the correct benefit is going to the various recipients. This, of course, forms the basis of expenditure against provincial funds, in the municipalities, which would be the basis of claim against the provincial funds and will be the basis of claim against federal funds. It is an on-going process, continually under review and assessment. So in these two different ways—one, a continuing review, still in its development stages, of how to ensure that the aims and objectives of a given programme are, in fact, being met; and secondly, that they are being met in the most efficient cost benefit ratio possible.

Mr. Braithwaite: That does not quite answer what I had in mind, Mr. Chairman. I am going one step beyond that. I am saying certainly the references made to the legislation that set up the programme shall be used for an example.

I am thinking more of how the continuing validity of programmes is evaluated as the circumstances change. In other words, as I mentioned earlier in my opening remarks, it is obvious that a great proportion of people in Ontario—and I am using my own constituents as a sample—are quite concerned that the welfare or social services are not being administered in the best way. All that I am asking is is there any particular section of this department that not only checks to see whether you have proper trial balances and so on, but whether the legislation as put

forward—the Act that you are trying to keep in mind when the programme is going forward—is still viable? That is what I am concerned about.

I am concerned that it is recognized when it becomes obvious that a particular programme is not working or the aims or the area that the programme is covering should be changed or varied. Is there any particular group of people in the minister's department who have the responsibility for evaluating, from time to time, as the situation goes on just how things are going? I do not mean that they say, "We have been told to do so and so; the money has been spent correctly," and so on.

I am more concerned that there be somebody looking to make certain that the aims of the programme are still valid and there is still a viable situation? This is what I am concerned about. I think this is going beyond what has been said here. This is why I am asking the minister, who does that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, that is quite right. What you are really asking is who decides policy, because that then becomes policy. In other words, if people, as you say, say that they do not think the welfare system that we have in this province is working, who is looking at that? Well, that is both government policy and our departmental policy or our responsibility to recommend to the minister.

Those determinations would come about in various ways in our department from the deputy minister and his meetings with programme people who run the various programmes. They are always evaluating and looking at their own programme and recommending and considering things that can be done to improve it. Then our research and planning branch are doing research on programmes to find out information upon which we can perhaps base new policy.

Through those sources, they come then to the minister and from the minister to the policy committee of cabinet. That is where you get this process that you are suggesting. And this is an on-going process. It is an on-going process not done with ourselves alone but in conjunction with the federal government. This whole process that we are going through now, with our meeting in June, will be part of the process of looking at the total welfare system.

Mr. Braithwaite: A final question then. What was done in the minister's department

before this recently installed PPBS? What series of checks and balances were there? What system was there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think you are confusing the two things. The PPBS thing has to do with once you have set your programme goals and, financially, are they being carried out; or are they costing more money and so forth?

Mr. Braithwaite: That is right. What I am saying is what did you do before you brought that in?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We used much less sophisticated methods. We just had the usual auditing procedures and people either said yes or no.

Mr. Braithwaite: There was no real way to know whether or not these large amounts of money were being spent correctly then? This is what I wanted to know? Is that what you are telling us?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You know, it depends what you mean by correctly. We know that they were being spent correctly under the guidelines of the programmes. Now what you are really saying is are the programmes right or not? That is really what you are saying. You are saying—is the programme of assistance? Is that not what you are talking about?

Mr. Braithwaite: I am saying why did you bring in PPBS?

Hon. Mr. Wells: PPBS is meant to make government more cost-effective and so forth.

Mr. Braithwaite: That is what I am trying to ask you. Before the concern about government becoming cost-effective and cost-conscious, what did you use?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We used the less sophisticated methods. The reason we are bringing PPBS in is because it is felt that it will be more effective. I am not an accountant. I do not understand it, but it is hoped that it will guide us. Perhaps some of the things that will come out of this are in cost-effectiveness. Should municipalities handle parts of the welfare programme or should they be all provincial? We may get certain feedbacks on this kind of thing that, we will say, cost-effective-wise it would be better if they were handled this way or that way. This is the kind of playback that may come back.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Trotter.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make a few remarks in some part in

rebuttal to what the minister has said. Also, it could be classified under item 3 of this vote—research and planning.

I do not know what research is going on and to judge from the minister's remarks there is really very little actual planning. I know he has given the reason that he has only been the minister since March 1 of this year, but really that does not wash with me for two reasons. One, I would have assumed and would have hoped that something had been done prior to his becoming minister. But even more important, if you bear in mind this, that the Economic Council of Canada tells us that approximately 25 per cent to 30 per cent of all families in Canada—say a family of four—have an income of less than \$4,200. Of that group, 48 per cent are physically and mentally disabled, which would come under The Department of Health to some extent.

One would think that a former Minister of Health would be extremely aware of some of these problems. It is not that all disabled people cannot work, because the minister mentioned it was important, not just to have a transfer of money. It is important to create a job, but in many ways the policy of this government, particularly of this department, discourages people from staying at work or getting a job, and I give you one example in my riding.

I tried to do something through this department and as far as I know nothing happened. It was a case of a man who was in a wheelchair. He had a full-time job, but it was extremely difficult for him to move in and out of the apartment he had. In some cases he had to wait after work for three hours until someone could help him to his apartment. He phoned me hoping he could get some place to live on a floor level so that he could keep his job and keep working. The last I heard, which was two or three months ago, nothing could be done.

The minister of this department might say Ontario Housing had nothing available, they could not do anything, but in any event this is a situation where, when we do not have available housing or available assistance, a person who is in gainful employment, even though he is disabled, will be cast completely on the welfare roles.

I do agree with the minister it is important to have work incentives, but it is also important that we have some type of policy from this department and from the government that can assist people to help themselves.

That particular case I mention was where the man lived not too far from Ontario Place, and that man in a wheelchair was trying to stay gainfully employed. Ontario Place, to me, rather symbolizes a crisis in values that we have in this province, and in particular through the policies of this government.

Not that I do not admire Ontario Place, but it is a fact that we can find the millions of dollars necessary for that and yet we cannot assist some person who wants to work. Because he is in a wheelchair, we just do not seem to have the facilities to be able to find him a proper place to work—as he gets older that individual cannot wait three to four years until someone can take him up to a second-floor flat.

That particular man in the wheelchair, I think, symbolizes what is necessary from this department in that we need to have policies that are going to help people work. I say to the minister rhetorically—and maybe he can make some remarks afterwards—that when you have 48 per cent of your families who are suffering from physical and mental disability, or another 37 per cent consist of women who have been deserted or separated or divorced, you are going to have to put into effect some of the policies that you must know about, and which have been researched by this government years ago, but where little or nothing has been done. I should say in some cases it is not that nothing has been done, but extremely little.

For example, this department carried out research a few years ago in studying 100 hardcore welfare families. What could they do to put them back to work? They found that 43 per cent could go back to work if there was retraining and particularly if there were day-care centres. In some cases, where there were mother-led families, the mother was quite capable of earning a living and wanted to earn a living. That research was carried out, I would venture a guess about eight years ago, and yet we still suffer from a tremendous shortage of day-care centres to the point again where—and I take again from the minister's own remarks—we want work incentives.

I know of one instance where a woman had a fairly good job, but it was so difficult to place her four children in day-care centres, even though she would get up at 6:30 in the morning, that she was advised, by a local welfare officer in the city of Toronto, to quit her job and go on welfare. This again is a case that I know of. For-

tunately the woman was able to relocate in an area where there was a day-care centre and she did not have to quit work and go on welfare.

But you can see there is a situation in this province where there is not a work incentive—quite the contrary. In fact, we have instances where people are actually encouraged to go on welfare.

I am disappointed that the minister in his remarks did not come out with an aggressive statement of what he intended to do. He has, in this department, an opportunity probably to do more than any other minister in the government. If we do have—and I believe we do—a crisis in values of how we are to treat people, the solution lies within this department.

The minister not only has the opportunity to meet this crisis but he also has an opportunity to overcome a situation when it comes to political leadership, from which this particular department has suffered since 1943. If you go into the record of this department since that year you will find that politically this department has been nothing but a football, and the minister, in having really no opening remarks, at this point has passed up a tremendous opportunity.

We are going to ask, over and over again, why in the world you cannot at least have a pilot project in the guaranteed annual income. I believe it is coming; I believe it should come. I do not pretend it is the answer to everything. I do not think there is any one solution to the problems of a modern society in which we live, but this is one thing that the minister could initiate. Surely there must be some information, not only from our own research but from other research, in other comparable jurisdictions in North America, that could be of tremendous assistance to him.

This department, from a political point of view, has got a do-nothing reputation and I hope the minister does not continue that reputation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not think that is quite right.

Mr. Trotter: It certainly is. I am not saying that this department has not had accomplishments; I have toured your homes for the aged. I think that the record has been excellent and from what I have seen it comes from the civil service. I am aware there are good civil servants. The chairman

of this committee was also on that committee, and he will probably agree with me that great strides were made in this province.

You may be short of homes for the aged, but what you have are excellent. That programme was carried on under a minister who did not know a home for the aged from a bassinette, yet I must say that, although his name is in all those cornerstones of all these buildings, they certainly had good personnel and they had good buildings for the homes for the aged programme.

When one sees what can be done by this government, despite the handicaps of some of the political leadership that we have had in this department, we realize a lot more could be done. The minister has mentioned he wants to encourage the family pattern and I would agree with him on that.

I know personally that the present minister is very much against sin. I have a set of records at home, Mr. Chairman, with the photograph of the minister—I believe they are from the Keswick conference. He was one of the chairmen on that. And they are good records; I even listen to them five years later. So I know the minister, with all those clergymen, is against sin.

But he is the leader. He is now the minister of the department—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am in favour of Mothers' Day, too.

Mr. Trotter:—that does more to encourage sin than all the other departments of government. Because of stupid regulations, if anything is done it is done because they have been ignored by officials. In fact, I have come upon numerous situations from time to time that legally nothing can be done about.

I do not know if this one situation has been cleared up in recent time or not but this is as it existed. If a man is completely disabled, the government will pay him so much per month. In one case I know—a man completely disabled in a motor accident—the government comes along and will advance him so much per month. But if his girl friend was so good-hearted to marry him, even though he was completely disabled—and she may be earning a pittance—it is enough to cut off the money that man would receive from the provincial government. In effect, if they had lived common-law—and I believe this is still the regulation—if those two people would live common-law, they would be much better off financially and the government would reward them for doing so.

I think you may blame the Canada Assistance Plan for that regulation, but certainly the provincial government is not that desperate, that we fail to pressure the federal government into changing those regulations. Certainly we can do something on our own.

It is the same way in which we regard men who are unemployed. There are many people, many men, who know that their wives will be taken better care of if they desert them. Many men do desert. I am quite sure that others go through the motion because they cannot get work and therefore it is better that they at least appear to desert so that the mother and children can get more support.

These are stupid technical regulations that have existed year in and year out and we complain, and you may research, and you may plan, but the only way I think you get around these things is if a welfare worker with some common sense sort of ignores the actual situation.

I do believe the situation has improved somewhat where a family is on welfare and the teenager goes out and cuts somebody's lawn and earns five dollars that this is no longer cut off from the benefits. It may happen on how the local administration is but this is not enforced as badly as it was. But still you really do not give people the work incentive that they should have. It is pretty hard to explain to a teenager that if he goes out and earns \$5 his family will suffer and they are no further ahead.

It is not that I am asking that people should live off the government. I think we should encourage people to help themselves, but by the silly rules and regulations which governments have, both federal and provincial, we certainly do not encourage the work incentive. And I think what many people of the general public think about people on welfare—they think, "Well, they are there because they will not work"—is completely and entirely untrue.

I would say that from two to five per cent of people on welfare really want to be there. In fact, I once made a speech saying it was five per cent, and someone from—I do not know if it was from this department or from a department of Metropolitan Toronto—told me it was closer to two per cent, that the two per cent were very, very bad. There is no question that people will misuse the welfare, and of course those that we see and charge with fraud hit the paper, but the vast majority want to work and when the minister says he wants a work incentive, there is no question in my mind that not only are people ingrained

to work—this is part of our society—but because of modern advertising, it is status.

Very, very few people will brag that they are on welfare. A small, particular group might, but we live in a status society so there is no question in my mind that these people who are on welfare want to get off it and whether we call it social assistance it is still known as welfare.

Now I want to say to the minister that really, if he gets into planning and research, he is going to need an overall plan, and if he takes a narrow view he is going to be able to pass an awful lot of it on to The Department of Health which he knows about. He can pass it off on to The Department of Trade and Development, because part of his problems come from housing, and he can pass a lot of it off to The Department of Education, because part of the way of re-establishing people is through education.

We used to get a lot of phoney talk on various estimates about all these interdepartmental committees, but of any results I have seen of interdepartmental committees, it does not amount to a hill of beans. And from this minister, and from this department, there should be planning; but over and above the planning there should be a great deal of action, because surely with all the articles, all the studies, that have gone into the social problems which this minister has to face, he must be able to come up with at least, at least, a pilot project.

I would expect more of him than that, but surely he can come up with the pilot project.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Would you believe a white paper?

Mr. Trotter: Well, if you are going to have a white paper, fine, but then white papers can get pigeon-holed. I think it is time for legislation and something with some guts, because after all in Canada, through all different types of government, we spend over \$6 billion a year on welfare—\$6 billion. Now that is all of Canada, but when you realize the wealth of Ontario we all realize that a very, very large proportion of that \$6 billion comes out of the taxpayers of this province.

A lot of people are concerned that their money is being wasted, and also that a lot of that money being spent is not helping the people that it is supposed to help, and in a large part it comes from lack of planning and living in a modern age. You are still a horse-and-buggy outfit, handing out welfare payments, and that simply will not do in this day

and age because the social consequences of the lack of action of this department can become, and is becoming, a major disaster for this province and there is really no excuse for the Province of Ontario. All right, you can blame the federal government until you are blue in the face but that still does not touch the 48 per cent who are physically and mentally handicapped or the 37 per cent who are in the poverty group that are mother-led families.

Your unemployment situation makes it worse, but you are caught completely without any plan, without any action, you have nothing to offer but to say, "Well, we will have to wait and see what Mr. Benson's tax reforms are." Well, surely, with the assets and the wealth you can command, with the staff you already have—there are many good people in the staff of this department—simply because Toronto and Ontario is the place to come, this is where the action should be. They can afford to pay the salaries.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They like working here. They like working for this government.

Mr. Trotter: And they like working here, certainly. And if you get some political leadership, there is more for them to do in these buildings than in any other place in Canada. But at this late date, even in a small matter, for the minister to say: "Well, we are moving toward the age of 18 as being the age of responsibility. We are moving." How slow can they get? Because this is a relatively small thing, it is important in a certain area, but when we are just "moving" what are you going to do?

I hope in the white paper, for example, another matter that can be researched out is the extension of credit to people in low-income groups—how they really fall into the clutches of the loan companies and the finance companies. This is something in many ways where they could be protected by government legislation. Well, we have had some legislation in the House in the present sitting, but it really does not hit this particular group.

Hon. Mr. Wells: But you do not really want special legislation for this group? I mean—

Mr. Trotter: Well, it is all a part of it. I do not know what your white paper is going to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, no, but I mean the legislation on that should be for every-

body. I do not think we should start centring out people.

Mr. Trotter: It should be for everybody, but the people that are really affected by it, and who can never get out of the poverty cycle, are those people who are in the lower-income groups and in many cases it is because of the misuse of credit, and this is all part of the—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are aware that credit counselling services are now enlisted?

Mr. Trotter: Oh, I am aware, and they do some good. I am not saying that they do not do any good.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but I mean it is now in this department. That was only a couple of months ago.

Mr. Trotter: Well, this is why I say, when you have planning—and why that section, item 3 is so important—you can shove off so much of this to other departments if you wish. And this is why I am saying the fact that you are a minister since March the first and say you cannot come up with anything does not wash with me because—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I did not quite say that.

Mr. Trotter: —when you have been Minister of Health these problems should be very apparent to you, because in many cases they end up in The Department of Health. In fact, as I said, at least 48 per cent are physically and mentally handicapped. But again I emphasize that a lot of those people can work. So I say in conclusion, Mr. Chairman, that I would hope the minister, who I assume considers himself a real free enterpriser, would be one to take a calculated risk and do something, and to bear in mind that all these people who are in this poverty cycle, who are in under this poverty line, are potential customers. I am sure if some of them had more money or an opportunity, they would be out spending it.

If you want to look at it in an extremely narrow way or, if you want to put it, in a Tory way, it is good for business if these people are put to work and given an opportunity, instead of being vegetables. Like that fellow in the wheelchair who wanted to keep his job, although somehow we can build Ontario Place, we cannot facilitate him in living in a situation where he can keep working; he is going to end up completely on welfare, completely a vegetable. So, instead

of being a taxpayer, which he happens to be at the moment, he is going to be a taxpayer.

Basically this is what is wrong with the policies of this government and, having listened to the minister in his opening remarks of the opportunity he has had, I hold out no hope at all that this government is going to come even close to taking any of the required action that we must have if we are going to meet what I call a crisis of value in our society. That is all I have to say.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, I just would like to say that of course I did not say that I did not have any answers. I indicated in my opening remarks that being new to the department, perhaps I should not be expected to have the answers to all the problems which, as the hon. member has said, certainly have been around for quite a number of years and are problems.

Mr. Trotter: Is there nothing on the planning boards?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Certainly there is something in the planning stage, and that is what I am going to say to you.

Mr. Trotter: Last year it was 415,000.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There are many things that have to be done. We all recognize that the social assistance delivery system, if you want to call it that, has got to be improved. To this end we are directing ourselves and to this end I hope that I am able to make some contribution here.

I know this is the hope of the staff who in this department; as the member has indicated and as I would say, we have an excellent staff here. I am very impressed with the expertise and the kind of spirit they bring to this whole problem. I think here in Ontario we have got people who are equal to any in this country, in this whole area, and we can amass together

Mr. Trotter: If only they did not have to suffer politicians; that is all.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, they might have problems suffering some of the opposition, but then the point is—

Mr. Trotter: Tell me—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Look, let us look at the problem. The problem is that if we are going to develop a proper delivery system, it is not something we do unilaterally. It

has got to be done together, with the federal government, which is what we are doing, and I am hopeful that something will develop out of the discussions we have in the next little while. The federal government has presented its white paper. They are all part of the system. They present their white paper on income maintenance, which is the kind of thing that the discussions are going on about now.

When we look at this whole thing, this is the kind of thing that I can see. I come in and I look at what are the various systems that support people or, if you will, people on poverty. There are about at least eight different systems, most of them unrelated; this is one of our big problems. We have got the old age pensions and the guaranteed income supplements. That is a separate system. We have got the family allowances. That is—

Mr. Trotter: That is taking people's money.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is a separate system.

Let us forget about federal-provincial. Let us just think about people—Canadians, taxpayers who pay money into systems and people who see benefits from them. We have got the old age security system, the family allowance system; we have got our own family benefit system and our own general welfare assistance system. They are not related but we try to keep them complementary. These are all things that would pay benefits to the people in certain categories. Then we have got our workmen's compensation system, which is not integrated or related, and we have got our unemployment insurance system. We have got the Canada Pension Plan system, and we have got the general income tax.

We have got all these things around now, and the real challenge is how do you get them all mobilized together so that they help the people who need help and in a way that is not going to be financially overburdening. Some people, as I say, say that a guaranteed annual income could do away with all these things and we could substitute one programme for them. Well, the more I talk to a lot of experts, including many in our department, this just is not so.

Mr. Trotter: I do not think that it will do away with it, but it will help in part.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It might help. I am just pointing out to you that this is the kind of thing we have got to come to grips with

and we are working toward this. Our research and planning people and all the policy people in this department are working toward it. They have got my full support in this endeavour, and I think I have their full support, as we work towards this. But it has also got to be done in conjunction with the federal people, as we talk about their involvement, because they are big partners in this whole thing. And we have got to involve the municipalities to some degree.

Mr. Trotter: Well, why would they not even use the Canada Assistance Plan for daycare centres? That would foot part of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I do not know.

Mr. Trotter: You say we are working together; I am just using an example.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Can we develop that when we come to vote 3? I have not got the daycare people here.

Mr. Trotter: All right, but your own research said—and I will go back to research and planning—that if there were more daycare centres, more women could be working. I am just thinking of putting people to work and yet the—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but wait a minute. We are not just talking about putting people to work.

Mr. Deans: We will have lower unemployment.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, but how do you open up these jobs?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are talking about putting people who are on welfare to work.

Mr. Trotter: They have had jobs.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are talking about people who are on allowances, about putting them to work. Just saying if more daycare centres would put more women to work is perhaps too general a statement to make.

Mr. Trotter: It is not the full answer, but it would put some to work. There is no single answer—I am not pretending that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We agree, but I am just trying to assure you that we—

Mr. Trotter: I am just trying to point out an area where you could do something. You do not need any great scheme across the

country. It is already there to use if you want to use it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, the full resources of our research and planning are directed to advising the government and myself in these general directions, and this is the kind of thing that we are doing.

Mr. Trotter: Is it still true, in the example I gave of the fellow who was disabled in an automobile accident and his girlfriend married him anyway—will he still be cut off?

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is true and it bothers me greatly, because I have a friend who is in this very same category, a fellow who has been written up in the paper many times, Wally Knowles.

Mr. Deans: When can we expect it to be changed?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I do not know, but we are looking at it.

Mr. Deans: Well, to tell you the truth, we will support you.

Mr. Ferrier: Bert Lawrence said things would be changed right on the spot.

Mr. Trotter: You are the third minister to say, "We are looking at it." You see why I begin to wonder?

Hon. Mr. Wells: If I can change it, it will be changed.

Mr. Trotter: Who would stop you from changing it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I just want to see the full ramifications, but if a man is disabled and he finds that he wants to enter into marriage, I think he is—

Mr. Trotter: You made a statement. Who would stop you changing it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Nobody would stop me changing it, if the Legislature or the cabinet decides—

Mr. Trotter: You believe in family planning.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just want to be sure that it is in concert with the total programme.

Mr. Trotter: Suppose the Canada Assistance Plan regulations said you cannot do that? For the province to make such a change on its own is not so vast that it is going to cost them huge sums of money; you would be

perfectly proper to just embarrass the blazes out of the federal government—and you love to do that. And you will get a lot of support—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Listen, my friend, I do not believe in just making idle statements and then not doing anything. Most of the time we just come forward and—

Mr. Trotter: No, I just—

Hon. Mr. Wells: —announce that changes have been made, as we did today for the old-age people. You have been getting letters about it just like everybody else, and the comfort allowance—

Mr. Trotter: It is how the law affects people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And anything we can do that affects people will be done.

Mr. Trotter: It is nonsense when you permit this thing to go on.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I have agreed with you, and if it can be done it will be done. As I say, I have a very personal knowledge of this particular problem because I know someone who is so affected. It goes deeper than the fact that the guy is disabled; I think it affects his own personal pride. If he is going to enter into a marriage contract and cannot work—and some of these people are categorized as disabled, as you indicated, and can work if they have certain things done, such as an apartment on the ground floor. But there are others that it is just not possible for them to work. He then is entitled to—

Mr. Trotter: I know, but even for a start, just for starters—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Also, in the last couple of weeks I have met with a lot of these people. I have had them up in the office and we have talked about things that can be done, and there are some very interesting things we are going to look at. For instance, it is possible perhaps that some of these people could work if transportation could be provided. I find it is possible for them to make some arrangement to get the use of a car. They get them a little Austin or Morris Mini, one of those small cars.

If this is the difference between a disabled person not working and working, this is something we should be looking at, because they point out to me, unlike what you said about some low-income people who overuse credit, they cannot get credit; there is no way. Some

of them say that they can get a loan or a car dealer will let them buy a car on time because they are disabled and on an allowance, even though getting that car would mean they get off the allowance and get working. So they are sort of stymied; they keep going around in circles.

This is a very interesting thing that I would like to look at. There are other things like this that these people could, I think, perhaps be helped with and if this is possible, we will do it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans.

Mr. Deans: Thank you.

Just before I say what I wanted to say, I want to go back to that just for a brief second. It seems that every time something is raised, regardless of whether or not the minister recognizes the problem, there is always some difficulty in finding out about it or trying to decide whether or not it is applicable and trying to determine what can be done about it. I often wonder just how long these things take. How long would it take you to research sufficiently the matter raised by the member for Parkdale? It has been raised by any other number of people in the past, with regard to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right. It has been raised and it has been rejected. This is the point, you see. You know, I am very pragmatic about these things. It is all very simple for a guy to be a big hero and stand here and say, "Yes, I will do that," but I just would like to be sure I have the facts in front of me. If they can be done, these things will be done.

Mr. Deans: It cannot surely be a cost matter, because the truth of the matter is that if you keep the guy in the situation that he is already in, you are going to pay him anyway. Right?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Deans: It must surely be more to your benefit, financially to your benefit—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Perhaps I can deal with that at a greater length when we are in that vote, when I have some of the people who can tell you some of the wider ramifications, and we can discuss it a little more.

Mr. Deans: All right; we will discuss it later. I want to talk about something else, under general departmental administration.

Mr. Chairman: Try to stick to vote 2001, if you can.

Mr. Deans: Oh, I certainly will.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, if we get into real details of the assistance programmes, if we do that on vote 2 then we will have the people here, too.

Mr. Deans: Okay. I want to say to you that what has been said by a number of people today and what has been said by yourself is true—that across Ontario and probably more in metropolitan areas, but nevertheless across Ontario and across Canada, there is a tremendous feeling of anti-welfare. It develops very quickly, particularly in times of unemployment, particularly in times when people are finding it difficult to earn the kind of income they earned previously and, therefore, feel that the burden of cost that they have to bear is considerably higher than they can afford and they do not want to pay for some guy sitting doing nothing. That is the attitude.

I do not think you can overcome that attitude unless you divorce what would be termed in public terms the more legitimate—all right, and I do not want that word to be referred to me—but the more legitimate income maintenance programmes from the welfare payments that are made to people who just refuse to work. As long as you are talking in your particular budget under your department of the expenditure of \$355 million, people reading that and the general public assume—wrongly, but assume nevertheless—that that money is going to the welfare recipient. They quote “welfare recipient,” a guy who sits on his rear day after day and does not do anything. Okay?

We are going to have to, whether you like guaranteed annual income or not, talk about a general maintenance programme that will ensure that the people who have no other way of earning an income get the same kind of respect and the same kind of benefits and are held in the same esteem in the community as people who, for reasons that are no fault of their own, are on workmen's compensation benefits. Why should a person who is ill and unable to work and receiving—under whatever he is receiving it, under one of the two programmes—a maintenance allowance to maintain him and his family, have to suffer the indignities that go hand in hand with general feeling toward welfare, when another person who happens to get his arm broken can get his workmen's compensation

payments, and there is no indignity at all? He gets it and everybody assumes that is his right, that he is entitled to that. He is a human being; he is not working, not because he does not want to, but because he cannot work.

You are going to have to as a government separate, not only separate in a vote so that we can understand it but physically separate, payments that are made to people who cannot work for whatever reason, from the payments that are made to people who will not work for whatever reason. Having done that, then we will be taking the first step towards helping all of society to understand the whole function of income maintenance. There just is no way to convince the average guy out in the street that, in spite of what the member for Parkdale says or any other member in this House, there are fewer than five per cent of the total receiving welfare payments who are in the category of the “will not” workers. All right?

It is impossible. I have tried it. I have sat on television programmes; I have been on radio programmes, spoken to groups, and said to them, “Do you understand the situation that so few of the people who receive benefits actually fall into the category of the people who will not for reasons known only to themselves, take part in total employment.” We are going to have to establish in this province payments to people who fall into the category of mothers who are deserted or widowed. They are going to have to get payments. We know they are going to have to get payments and they ought not to be begging and scraping at the door of the welfare office in order to try to receive little enough, completely and totally inadequate in many cases to maintain them.

We are going to have to set up programmes that will guarantee that the aged receive a level of payment that will maintain them in the economy in which they are forced to live. We are going to have to take a look at the whole situation as it applies to workmen's compensation cases because I know time after time a worker on compensation suddenly discovers by way of letter that he is now considered to be employable. Employable at what? Nobody is quite sure. His employer says he does not want him back; he does not have a job for him. He says he is not fit to do what he wants done and, regardless of how hard he might have worked, regardless of how many years he may have worked in that place, regardless of how much profit has been made off his sweat and his labour, he

is no longer needed. What do you do with him? You send him to the unemployment insurance office and, for a short time perhaps, he gets unemployment insurance—maybe he gets it. If he does not get it there, he has to go on welfare. He goes to welfare. He is a man prepared to work. At what, though?

The assessment of the workmen's compensation is made basically on something that, in my opinion, is totally irrelevant to the work force. A man may be 20 per cent disabled but 20 per cent disability in medical terms does not reflect his ability to work in any way. We are going to have to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: They have some rehabilitative process.

Mr. Deans: Have you gone to see it? I ask you seriously, please have a look at it and see what it is like. You know the rehabilitative process—I have yet to find anyone who became rehabilitated sufficiently to go and work at something that was meaningful and would provide him with an income.

So it is my view that in looking at the whole matter of payment to people—and I kind of smiled when I walked in the door today because the sign outside says "human resources." It does not say "committee," it just says "human resources." You know there could be nothing further from the truth. Do you know that in the public view of welfare recipients and, in some instances in the view of welfare recipients by people who are in the business, they do not look upon them as a human resource. They look upon them as a drag; they look upon them as a leech on society. They are not a leech on society, and you know this. Your friend, the Minister of Justice (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), did not do this cause one bit of good in his quest for the leadership—and I am not going into that at the moment—when he used the term that he would get these people off their butts and back into the mainstream of working life. It just leaves the inference that they are all sitting there completely and could not care less about whether or not they are working.

It seems, when you look at the setup of the department, you can change the name—and it seems to be a fetish with government to go around changing names every once in a while. You changed it from Welfare to Social and Family Services. You changed Trade and Development to Economics and Development. You just do these things—but a change of name means nothing as long as the people out there who pay the bills believe that the same things go on.

I have instances after instances that we deal with. I do not mean individual cases, but instances that we will deal with during the estimates themselves. The thing that worries me most is that we do not seem to believe that there can be dignity attached to being deprived; that a person deprived and with dignity is entitled to receive something without having to go through all of the demeaning aspects—that may not even exist, but that appear to exist—in going to the welfare office or applying for welfare.

I have looked at people—the member for Parkdale raised an example—I see people, women in particular, the heads of families, who would like to work but who cannot; they have got three or four children. They receive payment from the department, but it is very difficult in the first instance to equate payments that they are able to get to the actual needs of the family.

The limit is set in such a way that quite often the payment requires them to do without much of what they would normally have under a father-led situation. I think that this is so wrong. What happens is that the mother is given a payment and you can pick any figure you like—\$360 a month, for example, and she gets this when she is 25 years old.

One other point, she is not encouraged to work, and that is the point I was trying to make before; she is not encouraged to work. If she works, she generally finds that what little she can earn when deducted from what she gets, leaves her in a position much worse off than she would be if she stayed home.

As the children grow up and leave her, her payments are drastically reduced in each instance until finally the last child goes. When that last child goes she gets no payment from that particular source. She then has to transfer herself from that source to another source. There is no continuity and there is no consideration given to what her actual costs are or what it means to her in personal terms.

We do not look upon people very favourably, I am afraid. We really do not consider the effect of being a recipient of a benefit from the government. We would quite frankly rather have the individual working at a meaningless task, doing nothing. There would be more dignity involved if you said to all of those people, "Come into the Parliament Buildings and we will provide you with a broom. You do not have to do anything and you can walk around and just sweep up anything you see. It will look like a job; people will think you are working and the payment we give you will be fine."

Why should it be that way? Why should we be in that situation? Why is not an effort being made by the government to try and establish in the minds of people that the welfare recipient—and I use that in the broadest personal term, a person receiving benefit from this department—for the most part is a person who cannot, through no fault of his own, work or obtain an income anywhere else. We do not do that. It is not being done, and it cannot be done as long as everything is lumped in together. It just cannot be done.

You take the statistics that I have in this field and I want to use them for a moment. In aged category during March, 1970—which is some time ago now but they are the latest figures I could come up with—15.2 per cent of the people who were receiving welfare under The Family Benefits Act were aged, obviously unable to work—unable to work in terms of the economy anyway because there is no place for them to work.

They might be quite capable of doing it, but there is no place for them to go. They may not be even aged to receive an old age pension. They may be 50, 58, 60, 64—they could be any age, without employment, without the possibility of employment, without any income to sustain them. Yet they are lumped in with the benefits that are paid under The Family Benefits Act and people do not appreciate that there are so many of them—in excess of 15 per cent of the total.

People who are disabled: 37 per cent of the total moneys paid out goes to people—not total moneys, perhaps, but 37 per cent of the cases are people who are disabled. We are not getting that message across. As long as we are prepared to allow the kinds of statements that say we have to get them up off their butts and out into society, into the mainstream of working life, those people are going to suffer.

They suffer because of the stigma that has been attached by the politicians, by the press and by the general public at large to the receipt of a payment where you are not producing something. It is unfortunate, it is very unfortunate, because it will be more so rather than less in the future.

I suspect that as we go into the next decade or beyond, there will be more and more people who will find the getting of gainful employment extremely difficult. Our economy is not growing at the rate that will ensure or assure that all those people who are coming out of schools will be able to get jobs. There is no guarantee that the people who are

going to be in the work force will be able to find employment.

It may well be that the younger ones will get jobs, but the end result is that inevitably someone, somewhere, in the work force is going to be dislocated. We are going to have to try to condition the public to understand that this is inevitable; that it is going to happen; that there will be more and more people, through no fault of their own, who will not be able to work. All of the policies we spoke of before, the minimum wage, the hours of work, the expansionist policies to promote employment, are non-existent.

There is not any progressive movement to change all of the related policies that have to be changed in order to compensate for the increased numbers of people in the work force who, out of necessity, because of the way we work, will not be able to find employment.

What I am really asking you to do, in a nutshell, is to dismember your department. I am asking you to take it apart and I am asking you to separate it in such a way that we will no longer be faced with trying to justify the justifiable.

Why should we have to take time and waste effort just to find what is entirely justifiable to the public? Why do we have to spend so much time trying to convince the public of the validity of the payments that are being made?

The reason is simply because within the budget of this department they assume—wrongly I think, but they assume, nevertheless—that this money is all going to a welfare recipient, and a welfare recipient is a bad guy, he is a lazy guy who drinks beer on the front porch and we cannot have that.

I do not care how much research you do and I do not care how carefully you try to raise the standards—and we will talk about that later too—I do not care how much more you are prepared to pay the people, or whether you are prepared to take the steps that you talk about in meeting the problem of this disabled gentleman, or any other number of disabled gentlemen. Unless you take the department apart, and unless you separate it into—how are we going to call it?—into a department dealing strictly with income maintenance, where people who are unable, due to whatever reason, to be employed and leave the remainder, the welfare recipient within the welfare structure—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): It is taking you a long time to say something.

Mr. Deans: That is okay. I listened to your people all afternoon. Unless you are prepared to do that, we are never going to overcome the problem that we are facing, and the problem is just one of the stigma on welfare.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Can I just say, Mr. Chairman, that I think we are two steps ahead of you, because we have already done that as far as I am concerned. It may not be perfect and it may need some refining, but we already have established in our department two distinct sections, and one is family benefits.

The family benefits programme covers what broadly—

Mr. Sargent: It does not cover what he is talking about.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, it does. It covers broadly the people the member for Wentworth is talking about. The people we are referring to and whom the public talk about are welfare recipients; I do not think they are referring to our family benefits people. They are referring to—

Mr. Deans: They are.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No they are not, because the aged, the disabled, the single mothers with children, the foster mothers and the fathers with dependent children are in family benefits. This is a new book we have put out—"Your Family Benefits Handbook"—and I will just read you this. It says:

If you are not likely to be able to work at all for a long time, due to your age, a disability or your being a single parent, you may be entitled to family benefits, which is a monthly allowance provided through the Province of Ontario. It is mailed by cheque at the end of each month.

If your financial need is likely to be short term, you may qualify for general welfare—

Which is saying, "if you are an employable person generally."

The laws of Ontario give all people who are in need the right to receive regular allowances. You also have the right to appeal to the board of review if you feel that you do not receive the benefits to which you are entitled.

This pamphlet is written to help applicants for, and recipients of, family benefits to know their rights and benefits. Like family allowances, unemployment insurance, and Canada pension, family benefits allowances are provided for by law. It is the legal right of every person who meets the eligibility requirements. If you qualify, then you have the right to receive them.

This is part of our programme to do, in effect, exactly what you have said.

Mr. Deans: It cannot be done .

Mr. Chairman: On that note we will adjourn.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Can I just say, Mr. Chairman, that this little booklet has been prepared. It is in its test distribution at the present time. We are putting out a small number to test the various things that are in it, the explanations of this family benefits programme.

After the testing has finished, there will be about a quarter of a million of these distributed everywhere in the province for everyone to see and get a copy of.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

**Estimates, Department of Social and
Family Services**

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Thursday, May 27, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1971

The committee resumed at 8:10 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES

(continued)

On vote 2001:

Mr. Chairman: In the absence of Mr. Deans, Mrs. Renwick has the floor.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister if he would comment on the item, research and planning, \$45,000—exactly what research and what planning that entails?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Social and Family Services): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to. This of course is the vote which supports the research and planning branch of the department which has a staff of 21 people, and I guess you might say it broadly serves a couple of functions. One of them is that it does backup work, research work upon which the department and the government, can make policy decisions in this general area of our programmes.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Can I ask what sort of research?

Hon. Mr. Wells: In this area, any kind of research that we happen to ask. These are the backup people, a big portion of them, who do the research for us to make policy decisions in any of these areas—for instance it may be family allowances, family benefits, anything.

Mrs. M. Renwick: You do not know exactly what programme this would be for at this time, right?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It would have been on anything that we do. That is the one part. Then the other part, Mr. Chairman, is that they do specific research in certain areas. I can tell you some of the things that they have done there. They have done some work in four different sections; the department is broken up into four sections.

Social services; in this area they have done some studies on daycare services, they did a report on this. They did a census of utilization of community services. This was a reporting system for private agencies and some of this work was done in the St. Catharines area. The federal-provincial task force on alienation; they have done extensive work in this area. They have participated in the planning of certain demonstration projects which we have going. At York University there is one being carried out to assess the attitudes, opinions, the whole gambit of things, of 500 mothers who are on the family benefits programme, who are receiving it; what they think of the programme, their attitudes toward it and so forth.

This research project is going on. This is research not only under social services but under the income maintenance part of the department, which is carried on by the research and planning branch. That report is now being prepared and will be published this summer. That is a research project they are going to—

Mrs. M. Renwick: It will not be ready until summer then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, that will be published. The branch will be responsible, if and when we move into the income supplement or income maintenance experiment, for carrying on part of that project.

Mrs. M. Renwick: How about the work in the daycare programme? Is that published at all?

Hon. Mr. Wells: What is that daycare one? It was an internal study that was done, a report that was prepared.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Nothing that we would have access to at all? Could I ask about the board of review?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Could I just say now that is just part; I was just going to tell you the other studies that they did. They did, of course, a major part of the work on the presentation to the Senate committee on poverty, and they are also responsible, in the

branch, for getting out the monthly statistical bulletin which they put out each month on case loads and so forth.

Mrs. M. Renwick: What is the most recent month of that bulletin, Mr Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The most recent published one is February.

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is as far up to date as you are?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. Do not forget that we have to get a lot of this information from municipalities for general welfare assistance, and when you look at that and consider the length of time it takes to get out some reports in other areas they do a good job really. They work pretty fast to try and get that information out.

They also run a library for the department which has a lot of information and documents available in the whole field covered by our department.

Mrs. M. Renwick: I would like to ask a couple of questions on the board of review. Do you still operate the board of review through a form six that you apply for and submit locally, or is my understanding correct that people now have to deal directly with the department rather than with the local administration on the board of review applications?

Hon. Mr. Wells: For general welfare assistance it is available through the regional offices, for the family benefits it is available both places, through our offices. And everyone can write directly to the board.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Sargent:

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I may very briefly make a couple of generalizations on this vote. I agree with the minister that we do have excellent staff, and as far as I am concerned since I have been here, in the past eight years we have had wonderful follow-through. My first contact was with Jimmy Band. Every new member I think is impressed with the contact we had at that time with Jimmy Band and then the very able successor, Mr. Borczak.

I think that you do have excellent staff, and I have nothing but praise for the operation, so far as a member is concerned in his contact with his riding through this department—for Miss Crittenden and all of the staff. I think that no member of the House can be

critical of this end of the operation, as far as I am concerned, speaking frankly and giving credit where credit is due.

But I am concerned, Mr. Minister, with the arrogance of the administrators at the local level. I think I communicated this to Mr. Borczak last week. And bearing in mind that I am wrong a lot of times, too, but having been there for 12 years and knowing the needs of the people as far as welfare is concerned, I feel that on the weekends when families are hungry they should have food, regardless of where the money comes from.

I have always had a standing order at all the local grocery stores that they give food and I pay the cheque if the welfare people do not. At this point, few people will not pay their bills. I am paying their bills for groceries on the weekend. It runs into big figures monthly. And this is known in Owen Sound. I am not being any hero. I am saying that as a matter of record because that is part of the job of being in this business.

But the arrogance of these administrators at local level. I agree 100 per cent with what the member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) and the member for Wentworth (Mr. Deans) said before, that the majority of people who go after welfare, in my experience there are a lot of phoneyes, maybe two to five per cent, I do not know and I am not going to make a speech. I just want to get this point across, that by and large, what you lose on the peanuts you make on the bananas.

The majority of people are honest and sincere. They want food for their kids on weekends, or assistance. They do not go to welfare to be on the take. And the fact that the administrator at the local level tells these people, when they go in there—it is demeaning to go in there in the first place—then to be treated by these Gestapo-like tactics of these guys investigating them and saying to these guys, "Go out and get a job."

These are married men with young kids—they seem young to me, I guess they are my age. They have got a wife and two kids or something like that and he says, "Go out and get a job. Are you not trying to get a job? No cheque! Your welfare cheque is cut off and you will be evicted," and things like this.

These administrators have the complete authority to say, "I am God, you will get your cheque." Then I say to the administrator, "Where in the hell is he going to get a job?" There is nothing in the paper. There are no jobs open, Where is he going to get a job? He says, "He is not trying."

I phoned Mr. Borczak and I said, "I want that man removed from my area." I could be wrong—and possibly I am wrong a lot of times, as I said before—but the fact is that the administrator should be told by you, Mr. Minister, that at every instance, the member of Parliament is their only contact with authority. This is so important to people who are in trouble or hungry. And my word, insofar as I am concerned in my riding, is pretty important. I do not want any cocky administrator hanging up the phone on me and giving me the business and telling his staff the same thing.

I can tell you, sir, that he is going to have a rough time in Owen Sound, that man is, until he learns to respect my wants for my people. I get taken a lot of time by people who are on welfare, sure I do, but as I said before most people are honest. I agree very much with what the former speakers have said in this regard.

I am further concerned about the other side of the coin—the fact that we have people critical of welfare who say there are a lot of freeloaders. I think Paul Hellyer's statement that there should not be a guaranteed annual wage but there should be a guaranteed annual work programme, is where I suggest that you can come into the picture insofar as not having people take a cheque for doing nothing is concerned. Give them a job, perhaps to go out and rake a lawn or cut down trees or shovel snow. But give them a job to do and that should be part of your research and planning programme.

Ottawa is talking about a new format for the government called PPBS—Planning, Programming, Budgeting System—you should have some; take the end product—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is what we have here.

Mr. Sargent: I am glad to hear that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It was all explained.

Mr. Sargent: The end product should be work for people first and then give them money for it, but give them a job first. It is demeaning to a man to ask him to take a cheque and not work for it.

If I may for the record for one minute read this to you. It was in a small weekly paper. I thought it made some sense.

It is time we had the Ontario job corps. With the government policy creating unemployment and increasing automation many unemployed are out of work through

no fault of their own. There are thousands of worthy projects in Ontario—parks need upkeep, roads need maintenance and clean-up, man-made dust bowls and abandoned farms need reforestation, community centres and facilities need improvements—while governments waste millions in welfare to keep healthy men idle. This is folly for the taxpayer and unhealthy for those on the dole. Ontario makes grants to municipalities but the situation gets steadily worse. The province should assume all welfare costs and establish an Ontario job corps. All able-bodied unemployed could be given work at the provincial minimum wage till economic conditions improve and they can get better paying jobs elsewhere. The money will be spent on welfare anyway. The taxpayers will get something for their taxes. The jobless can have some work and we can abolish the welfare for the able-bodied men.

It is signed by a man named John C. Medcore from Mount Albert.

This is just going down the line with what Ian and Jimmy were saying. I think we should have something of value for the people in this province. I would like to have some dialogue with the minister, if I may, to ask him first of all, having made the point, if there is any viability in this, to ask you where do the local administrators get the authority to be so tough on these people, because the law says that they are going to be fed anyway. I cannot see your department letting people starve.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Wherever they got it, they do not get it on this vote.

Mr. Sargent: I am sorry. I want to find out, first of all, where do they get the authority to be this tough toward them?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, I suppose they get the authority that they have to deal with the people that they deal with in the municipality from the people who employ them. After all, you see, you phone us up and say, "Do something about that fellow," but I mean, you were the mayor of Owen Sound. It is the major and council who hire this fellow, or the county which ever it is up there—Is it a county? Well, then, it is the county unit—Grey county—

Mr. Sargent: Is this not under county administration—

Mr. M. Borczak (Deputy Minister): He is a county man.

Hon. Mr. Wells: He is a county employee so it is Grey county that employs him. Is that the unit?

Mr. Sargent: Who supplies the money to the county?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We supply money just as we supply money to—

Mr. Sargent: Who lays down the policies?

Hon. Mr. Wells: —just as we supply 50 per cent road allowance and so forth. But you would not ask The Department of Highways to fire the road engineer. What I am saying is that really we do not have any direct control over whether or not that man can work and some of his attitudes.

Generally speaking I think—in fact, I am sure—the municipal welfare administrators are a conscientious hard-working, sincere group of people.

Mr. Sargent: I did not say they were not.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No. From my limited contact with them over the past few months, I have found that they are trying to improve themselves and improve the way they dispense their services in their area.

I attended a workshop that was held—when was it, two or three days—it was for two or three days which was for these people. They sat down in all sorts of structured groups—

Mr. Sargent: Question—did you lay down a get-tough policy?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we do not have a get-tough policy. All we do is tell them the kind of things where they have discretion. What they should do; how they should do it. You know, we try to guide them along through our staff training branch, but they are employees of the county.

The county may have laid down certain parameters under which they have to operate. I do not know of the case of this area, but, you know—

Mr. Sargent: You are saying that this is not your responsibility?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is our responsibility to try to help these people to be good municipal welfare officials, but we do not have any direct control over the firing of them or telling them they can or cannot—

Mr. Sargent: All right. You provide the money but you do not control any policy.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not to a great degree. We share 80 per cent—we give them the money on behalf of ourselves and federal government and they administer the programmes, and 50 per cent of the administration costs. Have you talked to the warden of the county?

Mr. Sargent: No, I have not.

Hon. Mr. Wells: He would be the one I suggest you talk to. You know, I completely sympathize with you if a person is treated inhumanly in these offices. There is no excuse for this. I am sure that most of the welfare officials, the regional municipal people, would say this too. Because they are dealing with people—

Mr. Sargent: As the minister in Ontario, how do you tolerate these investigators riding herd on these guys, saying, “you are not trying hard enough to get a job.” Now there are no jobs around, and they ride on these kids and say “We will cut your cheque off and you cannot pay—that is too bad.”

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know why—probably because it is just as your colleague said earlier; there is a great public feeling today that is putting the pressure on these people. The local people are, perhaps, putting pressure on that administrator.

Mr. Sargent: All right, why do you not do something positive about it and give them jobs?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Give the—

Mr. Sargent: Why does the government not do something positive about it and get them jobs?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think this a great idea—it just does not come under this department. This is the problem. My job here in this department is not creating jobs and we have got to get them all—

Mr. Sargent: I agree. But we get the same thing back from every minister we talk to—“that is not my department.” Is there not some liaison with somebody doing something positive about these things? Put on man on the moon and you cannot settle a simple thing like that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We had a lot of jobs cutting elm trees down.

Mr. Peacock: Not just elms.

Mr. C. G. Pilkey (Oshawa): There are just 50 million more to go.

An hon. member: We do not like that programme.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know you do not like it, but there is a programme. We have a bunch of work activity projects which have not been approved yet so—

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): What do you do when it comes down to the crunch? You get a guy who ought to get unemployment insurance. By all intents and purposes he is unemployed; he does not really require welfare assistance—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is a lot of them.

Mr. Deans: This is what the problem has been of late—double the number of people are receiving welfare simply because of unemployment. What kind of liaison do you have with the unemployment insurance offices and the Manpower retraining offices? I have always felt that all of these functions have to be tied together in some way.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, if you recall that is what I was talking about this afternoon.

Mr. Deans: Yes, we got almost to that point.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, before that I said there are at least seven or eight different support programmes that go. If you want to put Canada Manpower in as another one, there are all kinds of support programmes and they unfortunately do not mesh together.

Mr. Deans: May I ask you—for example, a guy comes to you; he has been receiving or has not been receiving unemployment insurance but his only problem is simply that he is unemployed. He gets some welfare assistance and it seems as if that is where it ends. He can go and look for work—he will not find it, not likely anyway but he may.

Hon. Mr. Wells: He is registered with Manpower.

Mr. Deans: Yes, but to be registered with Canada Manpower he may as well register at the drugstore at the corner, because they are not finding work either, for anybody. All that is happening is that you are transferring the cost from the unemployment insurance to the public purse of Ontario, or partly to the municipal government. This is where you have to be directing attention. It is not enough to say that—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I wish I knew the answers to these. It is quite a problem. Just a little example: one of the women who is looking after the census phoned me up three weeks ago and said: "Where can I find some men? I need three or four men to do a job."

Mr. Sargent: In the census?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: That is federal money.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I said: "Well, can you not find them?" and she said: "I phoned Manpower four times and they say they cannot send me a soul." Cannot send her a soul. I said: "That is almost unbelievable, with the unemployment rate in Metropolitan Toronto now." Nobody wants to come down and take a part-time job, you see.

Mr. Deans: There is a reason for that, too, I suppose.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Sure there are reasons for this.

Mr. Deans: It seems unbelievable.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Another fellow phoned me the other day who has a catering firm, and he said: "I am looking for three guys and I cannot get them. I phoned Manpower and nobody will come down."

Mr. Deans: I will send them somebody.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, he had been trying, and these are not all within the purview of our department. I do not know the answers to it any more than you do. But it just shows you.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Deans: It is just possible.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Sargent—

Mr. Deans: I am sorry. I was following up on this.

Mr. Sargent: —a question: Of this half-million dollars you are spending on planning and research, would that not go a long way to solving your work programme to give these people jobs? Could they not come up with the answer for half a million dollars?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I hope that, ultimately, we will perhaps find an answer. The research and planning people are also working in the area of policy development and planning within our department, and within our discussions with the federal government as we work toward some programmes.

Mr. Sargent: The fact is, you were a very successful operator. If somebody gave you half a million dollars—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Please do not use that word "operator."

Mr. Sargent: Could you not find the answer for half a million dollars?

Mr. Peacock: Do not give it to him now.

Mr. Sargent: Well, he has got the money there and he cannot find the answer to a simple thing like that. It would be quite a challenge for somebody.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not sure that I could in this field.

Mr. Sargent: All right. One more question: You are going to distribute a quarter of a million of those books, family planning books.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no; not family planning books.

Mr. Sargent: What do you call them?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Family benefit handbooks.

Mr. Sargent: I was pretty close.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Family planning books are different. That is The Department of Health.

Mr. Sargent: That is different is it? Family benefit, that green book there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: How do you plan to do it?

Mr. Deans: Give them to the census taker.

Hon. Mr. Wells: How are we going to distribute these?

Mrs. P. Jacobsen (Communications Branch): We are distributing them right now, on a test basis, to many groups of recipients—to welfare administrators and to organizations which deal with people who may be eligible for family benefits, such as CNIB, the multiple sclerosis society, the Victorian Order of Nursing, and some neighbourhood information centres.

The first copies are part of a limited printing and when we have received some feedback from the test areas, we will study their comments and attempt to incorporate them into the final draft.

Mr. Sargent: You are testing, are you?

Mrs. Jacobsen: Yes. There are 2,000 copies for this initial trial.

Mr. Sargent: How much budget do you have?

Mrs. Jacobsen: About \$2,000 to print.

Mr. Sargent: How much for these is on this budget?

Mrs. Jacobsen: It depends how much you have to change it. If there are not any changes then the printing costs will be very small.

Mr. Sargent: Then you do a mass mailing?

Mrs. Jacobsen: Then we do a final draft which will be printed, with about a quarter of a million copies distributed throughout the province.

Mr. Sargent: That is my point. Thank you, that is my point. There are many, many thousands of people in this province who do not know what is available to them.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They will be available in all kinds of areas where people can get them—churches—

Mr. Sargent: I am not talking about that. The people in this province should know it is available to them; there should be a mass mailing to every home.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You would like one in every home?

Mr. Sargent: I would like to see some in my home town.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The last time I sent a booklet on OHSIP to every home, everybody criticized me.

Mr. Deans: Not if your picture is not on the inside cover.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The way Judy LaMarsh mailed that Canada Pension Plan booklet to every home?

Mr. Sargent: That is right, that is public information. People should know what is available to them.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that we have to develop means to get this in wide distribution, but I do not think it lends itself to mailing to every home in the province.

Mr. Sargent: I disagree.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, we will take it into consideration. That is what we call Owen Sound green on there, too.

Mr. Sargent: It is quite a contrast.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans.

Mr. Deans: I think that Mr. Sargent has just made the very point I was trying to make before supper. In actual fact he has proved what I said was right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is an admission.

Mr. Deans: That is fine. He has proved that what I said was absolutely right. He is talking about the numbers of people who should be getting out and doing work and the numbers of jobs that we need to provide for all these people who are doing the job.

What I am trying to say is first of all let us separate—and I said this before—let us separate the ones who can work and the ones who obviously cannot. You have not done that. You were starting to tell me before 6 o'clock how the department had separated these things within the department, and I was interested in that. And I want to say to you—

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have done it.

Mr. Deans: Right, you have done it. What worries me is that you have done the very thing that I was wanting you not to do. I do not want you to keep it within the department, where welfare and social and family services can be so easily mistaken one for the other, and where the public looks at a budget of The Department of Social and Family Services and automatically assumes, whether they know anything about it or not, that that is the welfare budget for the Province of Ontario. Because it is not the welfare budget for Province of Ontario any more than the workmen's compensation budget is the Province of Ontario welfare budget. And this is the point that I am trying to make here, that the reason that compensation is so acceptable and accepted—even although there are probably as many people receiving that who do not deserve it as there are receiving welfare who do not deserve it—it is acceptable because it is separated and recognized as a right of people because they were injured at work.

Now, why should not other people, who have not had any particular injury, but who are ill, who cannot work because they are ill, infirm, disabled, old—you name it—who cannot work because they just have not got the ability to work, why should they not

have the same type of right as there is established in the workmen's compensation? Why should they not be able to have the same dignity in the receipt of their payment? Why should they not be separated and categorized apart from welfare? Then we can talk about welfare, and welfare is an entirely different thing. Welfare is a stop-gap measure. It is to meet an immediate need, it is to meet a problem that arises that is going to go away, much of it because of unemployment. And we can then start to put together a programme that will provide the kind of employment for that section of the total budget that is required and is capable of working.

There should be an on-going programme of continuous liaison between unemployment, Canada Manpower, and the so-called welfare departments so that there is an exchange of information continuously about the people who are in receipt so that they do not get lost in the shuffle. Because you will find that as long as a guy can go down every week to Unemployment Insurance and knock on their door and say, "I am here for my money," or "I am here to tell you something," or "I am here to look for something," that is fine. But the minute they get rid of him, that is the end of him. He becomes a file number away at the back some place, and that is the last you ever hear of the guy.

How many people do you ever hear of who are on welfare who get a call from the Unemployment Insurance to go for a job? This is the kind of investigation you have to make. My guess is that unless it is a simple one- or two-week proposition where a person is unemployed, has the prospect of employment but does not qualify for unemployment benefits because of previous layoffs or because he has not been working enough in the previous year, this person eventually becomes a habitual welfare case.

You have just got to do some things in the department. You have got to sit down with the Minister of Labour (Mr. Carton); you have got to insist that people who are Workmen's Compensation recipients are not the responsibility of the welfare board; they are the responsibility of the Workmen's Compensation Board. You have to iron out with your colleagues in the cabinet what their responsibilities are to the population in Ontario, because they obviously do not understand them or, if they do, they are not living up to them.

You have then got to sit down with the other departments—the federal government

is one place—you have got to talk to The Department of Health about what can be done in the field of the aged, and how they will assume their full responsibility, even if it means taking pieces out of one department and putting them into another in order that people can receive the total package from one source.

I have found so often that it is so easy to have a guy do without when you are very poor. And I do not know if many people understand what poverty is; I think one of the difficulties with people in Canada is that when they are working they do not appreciate what it is like to be very poor and not to know where your next buck or your next meal is coming from. I am not saying this about the department, I am saying this about people in general.

I suspect that when you are poor, having to wait three days extra just to get your payment is an awful long time. It is a tremendous hardship, particularly if you get a notice from the Workmen's Compensation Board on a Friday morning that as of that day you are reduced to 15 per cent, your cheque is in the mail and it amounts to \$30 and you have got your rent to pay. You have to go down and prove to the welfare department that you are in need and it takes them time to contact the Workmen's Compensation Board. In the meantime, your rent goes by the board and you are in more difficulty than ever. It is really an inhuman way to deal with people.

Mr. Sargent: That is right. It is despicable and dishonourable.

Mr. Deans: It is an inhuman way. I started out earlier saying that we were talking about human resources, and sometimes I wonder if we are not just dealing with statistics. Now when we look into the budget and we say we are spending X number of dollars, it cleanses the soul to spend that much money. That is not the answer to it. We are dealing with individual human beings who are at the very bottom rung of the economic ladder. And when you get to the very bottom rung and then someone takes it away from underneath you, you are in trouble. This is what is happening in the welfare system, and this is what happens throughout the system.

If we could separate those people who are recipients under The Family Benefits Act and the like—if we could separate them completely so that they were separate and apart, we could then start to put together a programme to deal with the remainder. This

would be a co-operative programme with the other departments over which there could be a person or an office who would do all of the investigative work in order to determine the suitability, the educational background and all of those things that go hand in hand with finding other employment.

Perhaps it would be better if the department were to make the money available rather than go through all the motions of having the office setups; arrange either with the Unemployment Insurance office or arrange among yourselves to make the money available to one central department to deal with those people because their problem is one problem.

Otherwise we have a splintering off and then we have the difficulty of trying to trace down who it is that ought to be paying, how much they should be receiving and in the meantime we have the lagging of receipt of benefits, and while they are waiting for that benefit they do not have any way of paying their bills.

I do not doubt for a moment you are trying—I do not doubt that for a minute; I think that in every department people try very hard—but my guess is that what happens in the departments is that you are trying to do really the same things, that the end result of all of the effort will have to be the exact same thing as before, maybe a little more refined, perhaps a little more closely checked, perhaps a little more humanely dealt with. But still you will have the same programme, and the same basic things have to be done in order to meet the requirements of the programme. I think that is what is wrong.

We have got to find new ways to deal with new problems, and the new problems are that we are going to have a lot more unemployment and you had better find a way to categorize it and bring it all together.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. B. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to bring up the problem of information to the individual who has to seek some type of assistance.

I notice The Department of Labour is setting up storefront offices in communities to inform people, especially those who are not of French or Anglo-Saxon origin, of their rights and the benefits available to them in and through the various branches of The Department of Labour. Could not the minister combine, in the communities in which

The Department of Labour is going to set up its offices, similar offices or information centres, so that the residents in given communities could likewise be so informed of their rights and privileges? It is all right to publish a book, Mr. Minister—it is a valuable book—but it does not get to those of ethnic background who are not familiar with the English language. Whereas if you had officers in there who were fluent in several of the other languages that are a little more commonly used in the community—say, if the population is fairly heavily Italian, an officer who was capable of speaking in Italian to those who applied at the location—

Mr. Sargent: They could use them as headquarters at election time too.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, I am not worried about that. I would first be interested in informing those who need welfare and need government assistance of their rights under the present legislation, to see that they know what they are entitled to.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Maybe even a Northern Affairs office would do. They could have them in southern Ontario too.

Mr. B. Newman: Maybe what you fellows say is true; you are a little more familiar with that back in your own ridings. But in my riding I do not find anything like that as yet. Maybe I will regret them putting The Department of Labour offices in my riding, but I will fight that when I have to.

I would like to ask of the minister if he is considering either setting up his own or combining it with one of the other government offices in a community, say like in Windsor, where we have The Department of Labour going to set up a storefront office?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would be happy to take a look at this, but I would point out to you that we have 22 regional offices and 33 sub-offices at the present time, which is quite a network of offices across this province. I have not had time to visit them all at this point, so I do not know whether they lend themselves to information centres or whether they serve more as an administrative office in a region. I am not sure.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Call one up some morning and tell him Joe Blow wants to make an application.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Did they not treat you well?

I was in some of the OHSIP offices and I found that they were storefront type operations. One that comes to my mind is in Thunder Bay; I thought that served a very useful purpose. And I guess at the office in Kenora, on the main street, you could walk right in. These booklets are available in English, they will be available in French, and we could consider them in Italian or other of the various languages. We have got pamphlets that are out in 13 different languages.

Mr. B. Newman: What does the individual do who cannot read?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have to give it to him verbally.

Mr. B. Newman: I am not kidding you when I say that, Mr. Minister.

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): He calls his member.

Mr. B. Newman: That is true. I send each of them a letter that if I can be of help to them, I am glad to help them, but people will not necessarily read information that is sent to them, whereas they may drop into an office.

Surely if The Department of Labour is considering such a thing there must be some reason for their consideration of that type of an office? Is it just a pre-election office? I would like to think not. But if we can combine The Department of Labour's step in the city of Windsor with The Department of Social and Family Services, I think it might be a forward step.

Mr. Sargent: We will do that next year.

Hon. Mr. Wells: What we would do there is we would put our pamphlets into their office just as we are putting them into the community information centres. That I think the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Yaremko) has. We will put our pamphlets and our booklets in any of those centres, and they will be readily available. The office at 374 Ouellette Avenue in Windsor is not satisfactory for us. It is on the seventh floor.

Mr. Peacock: It is a lawyer's office building.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, there is one thing that you forget. You have citizens' organizations set up in the community. Windsor has three of them. An east Windsor one, a downtown one and a Windsor West one.

These organizations are set up only because citizens cannot get through to government and cannot get information from government. So citizens have banded together in an attempt to help one another through a lot of this red tape and the need for information.

The fact that you now have such organizations must show that there must be some weakness in communication on the part of government with the individual. I would hope, Mr. Minister, that you would look into this, especially now that, as I mentioned earlier—

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I say, we would put the pamphlets and information in; if The Department of Labour has an office, we put it in their office. I do not think we would set up another office.

Mr. B. Newman: Then why not combine it with The Department—

Mr. W. Hodgson: Can you handle some of these out of your office?

Mr. B. Newman: Out of my office? Thousands of them. Sure, I would be glad to. You provide me with a thousand of the booklets and everyone on welfare will get one from me!

Mr. W. Hodgson: It would be an election year.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We charge if you want to put an election message on the top. There is a royalty if you want to put your picture on the back.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, there is one other question that I would like to bring up to you at this time and that concerns the provision of assistance to an individual as a result of a strike.

I have residents in the area who foresaw the strike at Canadian Bridge, which is a division of Hawker Siddeley. They told me months in advance that the plant was going to go out on strike. They could feel from conversation with other workers at the plant that this was going to happen. They knew they could not afford it. They were living from pay cheque to pay cheque.

The plant goes out on strike. The benefits from the strike were, at one time, only \$13 a week. How does that man with a family survive? He voted against the strike. So what does he do? You deny him the right of a livelihood. Yet you would come along and provide welfare to him if he deserted his

wife for the duration of that strike, would you not?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not to him.

Mr. B. Newman: Not to him, but to his family.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We might, I do not know.

Mr. B. Newman: I think you would. Yet he stays home with his family and tries to make ends meet, he borrows to the limit of his borrowing capacity, and nothing is done to assist that individual. Are you considering something under such circumstances, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, the general policy is that we are not considering extending general welfare assistance to those on strike.

Mr. B. Newman: Even if the individual were to come along and plead with the welfare office, as he did?

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is a special provision for two weeks assistance in cases of dire need. But a strike basically is a private arrangement between those working in a plant, the management there and the union involved. The people are taken care of in other arrangements.

Mr. B. Newman: What about a lockout?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Lockout? Same thing.

Mr. B. Newman: Why?

Mr. Deans: Why, if management decides to lock the door and refuses to allow employees to come in to work, should they not be able to claim welfare benefits? What possible reason could there be?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It might be a little different. In a case of a lockout there would be no strike pay. Would the union pay strike pay in the case of a lockout?

Mr. Deans: That again would depend, I suspect. But the point really is that if the management decides that they are not going to settle negotiations and they just say, "Fine, as of tomorrow we are closing the doors, that is it." What do you do then? The men have not voluntarily stopped working.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is where it may not be quite as cut and dried a situation, depending on how long, or whether the lockout is a temporary thing. If it became permanent, of course, they would then become eligible, naturally.

Mr. Deans: Yes, but—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It could all be part of the strike-lockout situation. At the present time that is the general rule and we are not contemplating changing it.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I have one other suggestion or comment to make and that is concerning the need for a board of review on a local basis.

The Unemployment Insurance Commission does have such a local review board. Why would you not set one up on a local basis using three citizens in the community as Canada Manpower does with the unemployment insurance? Is there anything wrong with that, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, we have not found that it would be necessary to establish local boards of review in the province. We feel the provincial board of review is able to handle the number of cases adequately.

Mr. B. Newman: How long does it take, Mr. Minister, to handle a case once it is presented?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Roughly within the time limit prescribed in the legislation—40 days.

Mr. B. Newman: What does the party do in the meantime?

Mr. Deans: Forty days?

Mr. Peacock: And 40 nights.

Mr. B. Newman: The party that figures they have a right and a just cause, what do they do? Wait 40 days?

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): That sounds like the story in the wilderness.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The municipalities pay assistance, pending the decision of the board.

Mr. B. Newman: I cannot see that, Mr. Minister. I think the period of time is much too long. I think you could set that up quite easily in a local community and take care of it just like that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I predict that you would probably end up taking nearly 30 days in a local community if not more and you would probably not save anything time-wise. The volume that is now being handled I do not think warrants it. I talked to the

alderman from Windsor who proposed this too when I was down there, and she—

Mr. B. Newman: I am not bringing it up as a suggestion from any alderman at all, because this was brought up long before the council even discussed this.

Hon. Mr. Wells: A very charming person. It is too bad there is one minus factor.

Mr. B. Newman: No, that is all I have to say.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pilkey and then Mr. Gisborn.

Mr. Pilkey: Well, first of all, I want to know what, if any, discussion has been taking place in the department on the employee, as the member for Wentworth pointed out, whose benefit level under the Workmen's Compensation is reduced to say, 25 per cent because he is eligible for light work and there is no light work available to him. No other employer will take him on, so he finds himself partially supported under the general welfare assistance programme. Now, here we have the general public, the taxpayer—

Mr. Chairman: Excuse me, I did not want to interfere but really that is the next vote.

Mr. Pilkey: I am talking about it in the sense of a policy as opposed to a vote. Is this not where we talk about policy, in this first vote?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, really, Mr. Chairman, the estimates are completely new this year. As you have probably recognized, they are arranged in general policies; we call them policy 1, 2 and 3. Policy 1 is all the main office operation, which is the sort of superstructure that looks after the general operation of the department. Then the actual programmes are in 2 and 3; vote 2 being all the income maintenance programmes and vote 3 being all the child welfare and children's programmes.

Mr. Pilkey: Yes, I appreciate that, but as I understood these estimates, in terms of policy then, we discuss it under the first vote and to find out what the policy of the government was. What I am asking is, has there been any thought of putting this cost where it rightfully belongs, and that is in the area of Workmen's Compensation? Why should the general taxpayer of this province be responsible for the maintenance of an individual who was injured in a plant—and

fully recognized under the Workmen's Compensation that it was an injury sustained in the plant or wherever he might be working—and then to have them reduce it to 25 per cent and then find the balance of the money that he should receive coming from the general taxpayer? Has there been any discussion within the department in this regard to put this cost where it rightfully belongs?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have got a new Minister of Labour too. In fact, we are just in the process of writing him that we should sit down and talk about the need for a closer co-ordination of our programmes—Workmen's Compensation and ours—to talk about the very things that you are talking about now. I cannot answer as to why Workmen's Compensation Board does that. It is the same old story or new story, as you want it, if a person is in need and he comes and somebody else has put him in this position, we have to fill the gap.

Mr. Pilkey: I appreciate you do, but all I am saying is surely it is not a rightful charge against the general tax rate in this province?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess it is not, if you assume that what the Workmen's Compensation Board did was wrong. Now, I do not know enough about their operation to know why they put the fellow down to 25 per cent and whether that was right or wrong.

Mr. Pilkey: He is down to 25 per cent because he is fit to do light work, but there is no light work available. Who is going to take a fellow on that in another—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think we went over that this afternoon. I always thought that they had a rehabilitative process that tried to get that fellow re-established into the category they put him.

Mr. Deans: No, they do not.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Deans says that they do not—that they do not have this I guess. You will have to take that up with the Minister of Labour (Mr. Carton) when he is here to see if they do not. I agree with you—if it is legitimately there, okay, it probably should, because as you know Workmen's Compensation Board is really an insurance programme. The moneys that are paid out of that do not come from the taxpayers, they come as a levy on the companies.

Mr. Pilkey: Right, and that is where—

Hon. Mr. Wells: So that it is an insuring programme.

Mr. Pilkey: Right, and that is where the charge should be put.

Okay. The other thing that I want to talk about is this whole question of an employee who is on strike receiving a benefit. You said that it was a private dispute, but there is legislation in the US—I do not know how many states in the United States—that recognizes that an individual who is on strike and has no strike benefits accruing to him, then the state gives him a benefit.

You said yourself just a moment ago that you cannot be concerned about the legality of what the Workmen's Compensation Board does, you have got to give individual assistance because there is a need. Now, if the need is there, irrespective of how it came about, it should be a concern of yours, and I do not think you can say that it is a private dispute if we follow up on the philosophy that you just enunciated a moment ago that you are not concerned.

Your real concern is there is a need, and I appreciate that, and I think that that is the right philosophy. But if there is a need when a person is on strike, then I think that it is incumbent upon the Social and Family Services department that he gets a benefit.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, let me ask you this perhaps in the form of a question to you: If a person is on strike is he considered to be unemployed?

Mr. Pilkey: Well, he is not working.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but he still has his job. He is still on the—

Mr. Sargent: He has no income.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but he is still an employee of that firm.

Mr. Pilkey: Oh, well, so is the fellow on 25 per cent—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, wait a minute though. But he is still employed, and one of the primary prerequisites for welfare is that a person is willing to take employment if he can get it. Now that means he has to be technically available, and you should say to that person when he comes in to apply, "Well, look, we have a job down the street. We want you to take it because it is there." Now, would this striker be willing to do that?

Mr. Pilkey: Yes, I appreciate that and I think this maybe should be one of the criteria. If he refuses employment, then I think you could make your decision then as to whether he should get the benefit. But surely, surely he should get the benefit until at some point he says, "I do not want any job and I am not prepared to take any employment"?

I want to raise another question.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Would you like to hear a decision of the board of review in this case?

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, certainly. How long did it take?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I am sure it was handed down within the 40 days.

An hon. member: Forty days.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Got a bit hungry.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, I cannot understand how my friends can talk about 40 days being a long time when I told you that in the federal immigration appeal board you cannot get an appeal for two years.

An hon. member: Ah, that is different.

Mr. B. Newman: That is still to the advantage of the one that is registering the appeal, because he is allowed to remain in the country.

An hon. member: That is right. His chances are better all the time.

Mr. B. Newman: You cannot compare the two.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Maybe the secretary of the appeal board will tell us in how many real cases the time limit has presented a hardship.

For the following reasons, the board feels that The General Welfare Assistance Act was not designed to provide assistance where employment is lost due to a labour dispute of this kind.

1. The applicant is a member of a trade union which acknowledges the necessity of protecting its members from hardship during a strike and undertakes as a matter of union policy to do so.

2. In the present case the union created and maintained through the regular contributions to the membership a special fund, separate from its general resources, for the purpose of making strike pay benefits available to the members during a period when

they were seeking to improve the terms of their existing employment. The amount and extent of these benefits were determined by a union decision in which the applicant and his fellow members participated.

3. The applicant is not unemployed due to circumstances beyond his control within the meaning of paragraph B of section 3 of the regulations made under the Act, but rather as a result of his own voluntary act. By joining a union or taking employment in a union shop, he has ceded to the union the right to bargain on his behalf and ultimately to withhold or withdraw his services. In delegating the power to the bargaining agent to call a strike, he puts it out of his power to maintain his regular employment and the effects of a strike called by the union must be accepted as a natural result of his agreement to submit to and abide by union decisions.

4. It is the view of the board that the present legislation does not contemplate the payment of assistance to strikers from public funds. This could be accomplished through a special labour dispute fund apart altogether from the granting of assistance to the needy. The regulation covers inability to obtain regular employment but not the loss for interruption of existing employment through a labour dispute or the withdrawal of services.

5. The applicant cannot therefore be considered "a person in need," as defined in clause 2 of section 1 of the regulations.

That is the decision of the board in a case. I have not got the name of the case but it—

Mr. Gisborn: Was the decision unanimous?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Pilkey: Okay. You can shoot some holes in that argument. First of all there may be a union that is on strike and that does not have a strike fund. They are saying, assuming that they have a strike fund, they would get a benefit. I agree that they are getting a benefit and obviously they do not need Social and Family Services benefits.

Mr. B. Newman: Is \$13 a week a benefit?

Mr. Pilkey: We are talking about those that provide an adequate benefit. But there are unions that do not have a strike fund whatsoever. Let me take you to a case.

Let us assume for a moment that under the government's accreditation programme they have that the employers can organize,

and that there is a strike in that situation where one employer and the employees may want to settle but because of the government's programme—and this is your legislation under your accreditation programme—that employer and those employees cannot come to an agreement.

They cannot go back to work as the result of your legislation when 50 per cent of the employers in a specific area out of the accreditation programme organize and there is a strike in that situation. Now there could be employers who want to settle. There could be employees who want to settle and they are denied the right. They cannot return to work under those conditions.

Are you suggesting to me that as a result of that they should not be eligible for social and family services benefit? Here are both parties wanting to settle but cannot under your legislation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All these labour-management disputes are operating under the broad guides of our legislation, so I do not think you can lay the blame on us in that regard, can you?

Mr. Pilkey: I am not trying to lay the blame on anybody. All I am saying is that it is under your legislation. This was not formerly and when you introduced Bill 167 before that, it was not the case. If an employer wanted to settle with his employees, he could but he cannot now, unless they all settle or at least 50 per cent of them, I suspect.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The only thing that I think I can suggest there is that it would be a good case for someone to take to the board of review, to try that situation out.

Mr. Pilkey: All I am saying is that it is all right for the board of review to write that decision. I would hope that that was a specific case they were making their determination on, because there could be extenuating circumstances and I would hope that they would rule differently.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would have to study that in a little more detail before I could give you an answer.

Mr. Pilkey: All I am asking is that the minister will take a look at some of this.

Hon. Mr. Wells: In basic policy right now, I would say that we are not considering making these payments available to those on strike.

Mr. B. Newman: With no exceptions?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot think of any exceptions at the moment.

Mr. B. Newman: When the man votes against going out on strike and openly says he is voting against going out on strike and the strike vote indicates he voted against going out on strike—what do you do now? Do you have the man—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know.

Mr. B. Newman: —starve? On \$13 a week benefit that he was getting from the strike fund?

Hon. Mr. Wells: He is the member of a union and it is like any other democracy. He voted and the majority decision rules; he has to accept that whether he voted for or against it. I think even the member for Oshawa would agree with that, would you not? I mean, you cannot use the fact that he voted against the strike as something to get him special treatment from the rest of the fellows.

Mr. B. Newman: What you are asking him to do, Mr. Minister, is to desert his wife for a short period of time so that she can come along and qualify for some type of benefits.

That is what you are asking him to do!

Mr. Pilkey: That is what it is.

Mr. Chairman: Is the minister finished?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They had better join a union that takes good care of them.

Mr. B. Newman: Not all unions are—

Hon. Mr. Wells: They are not all like the UAW?

Mr. Pilkey: I just think the criteria should be used to determine whether an individual gets any assistance when there is a need. In respect of why—I do not think you can make any determination as to why, for an individual. If he is in need, then that is what your department is there for and it should meet that responsibility, regardless how it came about.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is a little broader. There are circumstances other than this decision that show that the person is not really unemployed. He does not really fall within the category.

Mr. B. Newman: But he is when he is in need?

Mr. Pilkey: That is the question. He is in need.

Hon. Mr. Wells: In fact, I believe that some of the jurisdictions in the United States do this—they will make benefits available to the family, not to the person but maybe to the families.

Mr. B. Newman: There is nothing wrong with that.

Mr. Pilkey: That is all we are asking.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gisborn.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, on this very point, I will be brief. I do not know why people on strike would not apply because the definition under the Canada Assistance Plan is this:

The act defines a person in need as a person who, by reason of inability to obtain employment, loss of the principal family provider, illness, disability, age or other cause of any kind, acceptable to the provincial authority—

Then it goes on.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Inability to obtain employment does not apply in this case.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, but "of any kind." They cannot work if they are on strike.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I know.

Mr. B. Newman: They said that is unacceptable to the provincial authorities?

Mr. Trotter: But that is the way it is officially defined.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is accepted in all 10 provinces.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, before I make a couple of points that I had in mind, a short while ago I made a statement in reference to the regional branch in Hamilton which sounded quite a little disparaging. I want to apologize. At that point my thoughts flipped somewhat and I was thinking about the HIRB office.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is what you meant. I wondered what you meant.

Mr. Gisborn: I want to apologize for that. I would like to say a word about this situation that we are dealing with. We might as well get it cleared up because it leads into some questioning in regard to your research and programme.

We know that what we are dealing with is a Conservative philosophy in regard to labour disputes and it has not been a mystery to anybody's mind over the many years. The question of The Canada Systems Act provisions, of course, has been disputed. We thought we had the Minister of National Health and Welfare exercised enough that he was going to challenge in court the decision of the British Columbia municipality in not paying it.

I do not know what happened to that effort, but I do not think that when we are talking about assistance to men who are on strike, and their families, or when we are talking about generally when a strike occurs, that everybody should be entitled to apply. We know that strikes are contemplated; in a great sense, most unions know they are going to have one within a few weeks and it all fits in with the pattern of strike pay starting on a varying basis of two weeks, three weeks, five weeks after the strike occurs. If it has been a wealthy industry with a fairly good rate, they have a cushion to carry them over.

We found—and the only time that I had experience with it was in the four or five strikes I was directly connected with—was that the individual member who had run into some extenuating circumstances, not because of the strike, had unfortunate sickness maybe just before the strike. He had run up a lot of bills and had got himself into more debt than he could carry. When he went out on strike under the regulations—the strike vote, or whatever you want to call it—he was the one who was hit extraordinarily harder than the other.

In this case, where his gas has been shut off within a week—because, in the first place, he was behind in his payments and they knew immediately they were not going to get any money—when hydro and gas were shut off, we have been able to get assistance from the municipality. We have been able to get assistance in many municipalities in many cases in these kinds of cases. It is only in the last year that we have had trouble in Hamilton.

The question that reaches my mind is, is there a decree set down by your department

as to how the municipalities handle these cases themselves? If the municipality decided that they would give this man assistance, this man and his family, even though he was out of a strike-bound plant, has your department decreed that they cannot do that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: What we have said is there is a special provision; they can give two weeks assistance in these special cases and we will share for two weeks. Mr. Borczak, can the municipality, if they want to pay 100 per cent themselves, do it?

Mr. Borczak: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The municipality could subsidize 100 per cent if they wanted to do it.

Mr. B. Newman: Would they be entitled to 80 per cent return from you?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, not at all. They are entitled to 80 per cent for two weeks. There is a special hardship provision for two weeks' assistance. That is the present provision.

Mr. Gisborn: Might I ask, through your research, can you ascertain at this point how many recipients there are of the social and family benefits who are receiving a pension from Workmen's Compensation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We can find out for you; we do not have it here. How many recipients of both family benefits and general welfare assistance are also receiving workmen's compensation?

Mr. Gisborn: Yes, I think the information is going to have to help us in the future. We should be starting to research this if we are going to build up a case against Workmen's Compensation and we want to know just what is involved here.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. You mean both a pension and a reduced benefit? Permanent partial pension, or full pension and a reduced pension.

Mr. Pilkey: Right. Temporary partial.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Temporary partial. I do not know that terminology. We will find that out.

Mr. Gisborn: Did I hear you just offhandedly say that the volume of work under the review board is growing?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is growing to a degree. We got our estimates on about two weeks earlier than we had thought, and the board of review's second annual report is not ready. They were aiming at the middle of June, they were going to be ready mid-June. Their case load for April 1, 1970, to March 31, 1971, was 681 cases. It has grown considerably, because in the last year there were 264 and this year they are up to 681.

Mr. Gisborn: Well, it is hardly worthwhile pursuing this because we have not got the statistical report.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, they will have the full statistical report in about another two weeks, which will be the same as the one they had last year.

Mr. Gisborn: It will not likely be in your estimates at that time.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, as I say, I am sorry it is not here. As you may or may not know, Highways estimates were scheduled to come in between those of Health and ours.

Mr. Gisborn: By this point we should be starting to find out what is really happening—if the applicants for appeal are frivolous, how many have been granted. If we find that there has been a percentage granted then there is something wrong with the administration.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think you will probably find from some preliminary inquiries which I made that the percentage of granting is about the same as last year. It is almost 50-50, very close; about half of them are granted, half of them are refused. Now that is maybe 45-55 per cent, but generally speaking they are not frivolous.

Mr. Gisborn: I hope it is not a "one for you, one for me" basis.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh no, no!

Mr. Gisborn: If it does work out to 50-50 then it indicates we have to do some projecting and some backup work as to what brought about the necessity for the appeals in the cases that were won by the recipients. Where was the fault you know. If they were claiming they were not treated properly.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They are not necessarily faults, Mr. Chairman. It is interpretation. There are sometimes, varying degrees of interpretation. There are these kind of things—there are decisions by the review board

which, you know, are already in the works and result in certain actions. I think the results of our tightening the regulations for the 16-, 17-year-olds, has come about because of certain interpretations by the board of review which most municipal welfare officials did not think were in the legislation; but because of the interpretations they are apparently there and that is why you change the regulations.

Mr. Gisborn: As I say, it is a hard subject to pursue because of not having the report. Because tied in with it, I would think, whether or not we have a large turnover in the field case worker staff, inexperience would bring about some of these problems of misinterpretation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Inexperienced field case workers? I do not think that would be a significant factor, really, because the whole thing goes through a fair number of processes before it gets to the board of review. I mean, if it had been an inexperienced case worker who just was not sure of the interpretation, this likely would have been caught before it became an appeal. For instance, a turndown would be double-checked by the director of family benefits, for instance, before the appeal is heard, and if it is found that it has been a mistake of interpretation, you see, they will be granted right automatically before they even go to the board. So that this kind of thing would be caught before it got to the board.

There are some people who, for instance, are told that they are getting the maximum allowance and, you know, they just do not believe the people when they tell them, and they appeal to the board and the board hears the appeal and tells them the same thing.

Mr. Deans: They just cannot believe it, it is not that they do not. They cannot believe it, that could not be the maximum.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh no, they do not believe it.

Mr. Gisborn: Can we find out, again without the report, to what extent municipal administrators of welfare have represented people in their applications for upgrading or for application to receive the social and family benefits that is to take them off the municipal roles? Have we had any representations made? Have we had applicants for appeals represented by municipal officers?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Do you mean that the municipal officer has come and appealed to have a person taken off?

Mr. Gisborn: No.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Put on? To have him put on?

Mr. Gisborn: To represent him in his appeal. To say, yes, he should be on social and family benefits, or he should receive more?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, we have had some where this has been the case.

Mr. Braithwaite: Do you have any figures on that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We could get that. I would not have those figures here now.

Mrs. M. Renwick: There are no figures or a report on the board of review?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I say, Mrs. Renwick, the report will be ready in a couple of weeks. It was scheduled to be ready about the middle of June, and our estimates are on now.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Your report is scheduled two weeks from now—your annual report?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Our annual report will be ready shortly, too. They all would have been ready except we are on a little early with our estimates.

Mr. Trotter: If it is shown on the board of review that some family or some person was entitled to their welfare payments or family benefits, is that made retroactive?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Trotter: They get it. Well, it would seem by what you said that almost 50 per cent of the people that appeal have their appeal allowed. Would it not seem fair to allow them until the appeal is heard, to continue the payment? It means that 50 per cent of the people that go before that board are doing without that should not do without.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not think—they are not cut off. Well, it is a thought to—

Mr. Trotter: They are cut off, are they not?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The municipal welfare people will keep them on on general welfare. The FBA ones are. If the allowance has

been discontinued and they have been told in the discontinuance they have a right to appeal, then the allowance stays cut off until the appeal is heard.

Mr. Trotter: Yes. So from what you say half of the people are getting it cut off, and they are doing without, and it turns out they should not have been cut off.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All the appeals are not necessarily in this straight cut-off procedure.

Mr. Trotter: Do you have any idea of how many people are cut off that it turns out should not be cut off? I am amazed that—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Many of the appeals, you see, are not just for straight cutoffs. Some of them are reductions in the amount of the allowance, and various things like this. So that in recovery of overpayments, a percentage of them have to be rehabilitation allowances. But it is a valid point and I will take a look at it.

I think these are examples of the kind of thing we will have to look at as the procedure becomes more settled in. The appeal board had only been going a year last year and, as we see, they had only heard 264 cases, whereas this year they have gone up to, what did I say?—six hundred and some-odd cases.

Mr. Trotter: That is more than 600 people, that is just cases. There are families involved in that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Trotter: So you are now starting to involve a lot of people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, we are starting to involve, and we are going to have to look at the various procedures and there is no reason why—

Mr. Gisborn: What has been the actual expenditure up until March 31, of the \$149,000 estimated for 1970-1971 for the review board? The reason is you are adding another \$10,000 only for 1971-1972 projection, it sounds hardly enough if the escalation keeps up. Unless you have some left over from 1970-1971 estimates.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The actual amount spent last year was \$139,600.

Mr. Gisborn: That leaves you about \$19,000 extra, estimating for 1971-1972. You are not expecting a big increase in volume then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we hope.

Mr. Chairman: Okay, Mr. Deans, but just a word—

Mr. Deans: I am just curious about what my colleague is raising about the amount of money spent. I was looking at the public accounts of 1969-1970. Most of the money that is spent in the appeal board is spent on the per diem expenses of the members.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Deans: The year I was looking at, it was \$86,000. This year you said it was, how much?

Hon. Mr. Wells: One hundred and thirty nine thousand dollars.

Mr. Deans: One hundred and thirty nine thousand dollars, and they heard how many cases?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Six hundred and eighty something.

Mr. Deans: How many days work was that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I could not tell you.

Mr. Deans: I do not know the gentlemen, maybe they are here. Maybe they would like to tell me what they do for their money. Who is R. J. Morris? Her allowance is \$14,000.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is Miss Robena Morris. Dr. Band is the chairman of the board.

Mr. Deans: And she gets 12,100, plus allowance, plus expenses.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Dr. Band is the chairman of the board. Miss Robena Morris, Frank Drea and John Wright are vice-chairman, three of them. And the members are Mr. Earl Armstrong, Mr. J. L. C. Lecour, Mr. James Ballantyne, Mrs. Norma Brown, Mr. Leonard Ellens and Mr. Lionel Vaillancourt.

Mr. Braithwaite: How many of them, Mr. Chairman, come from the ranks of the unemployed or from the ranks of those receiving unemployment?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Ballantyne was a recipient.

Mr. Braithwaite: Just the one?

An hon. member: Once he got on the board he was no longer a recipient.

Hon. Mr. Wells: He is no longer a recipient.

Mr. Deans: How often would they sit on this board? How many times a year?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Some of them two or three days a week. Some of them may even sit five days a week.

The policy of this board is to hear the appeal where it is most convenient to the applicant. They will travel around the province. They will meet if it proves necessary. They will hold the meeting in the living room of the person's home; they will hold the appeal there.

In other words, the whole emphasis has been on informality and easy accessibility for the recipient. They have tried to stay away from a real adversary system, confrontation between counsel for and against, all this kind of thing, and they have tried to make themselves accessible to the recipients.

I think they have done an excellent job in this regard. And they travel around the province, as I say, to do this. This takes time.

Mr. Braithwaite: Tell me, on the minister's statement this afternoon with reference to the teenagers going to school, and so on. Where there is a dispute, say, between the applicant teenager and the local administrator, are they going to be able to come before this review board? They might be in greater need, perhaps, than somebody that has been on welfare. What provision has your department made for that type of situation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is up to the municipality, I suppose. If they wish they could grant an allowance, pending the outcome of the—

Mr. Braithwaite: Supposing they do not? Has there been any discussion or are there any plans in your department for that? I mean, you are getting good press on this and so on, but how are we going to be certain that it is a humane type of decision? If you have the wrong type of administrator and he just says "I am not going to give, period," how do they appeal? And if it takes 40 days, what do they do? Perhaps the minister might be able to tell us what plans his department had made for this type of situation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We really have not made any special plans apart from the regular appeal procedures. We think that the normal procedures will apply and I am fully con-

fident that the thing will be handled in a humane way.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am talking about the exceptional case.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but you cannot single out the teenagers in that there will be other cases—

Mr. Braithwaite: Oh, no. I am just—

Hon. Mr. Wells: There may be exceptions in a lot of these, but by and large we gear for the general way things are carried on and I think they will be handled all right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Trotter.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, I just wanted to ask some questions about this board of review. At the present time is a person who appeals to the board of review entitled to cross-examine the individual who says they are not to receive any benefits?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Trotter: The information I had was that it seemed to be contrary to what the former Chief Justice McRuer was recommending in his reports. Are you sure they have the right to cross-examine?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, indeed they do.

Mr. Trotter: Are they told?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. There will probably be some changes in the structuring procedures of the board of review because of the McRuer report. As you know the Attorney General is presently preparing legislation that will apply to all boards and commissions and the various things such as this; he has this in hand.

Mr. Trotter: I know that the people in Peterborough wrote to your predecessor (Mr. Yaremko) and he wrote to them in May, 1970, so that unless there has been a very recent change, this is what the former minister said—and there is just about five lines, Mr. Chairman—in replying to these people in Peterborough. He said:

You raised the question of hearings and the right of cross-examination in the case of denial of assistance. Our departmental lawyer, along with the officials of the Attorney General's department, is presently studying the McRuer report in detail. While we are uncertain at this time what particular provisions will be implemented,

let me assure you that we are fully aware of this problem.

Now the former minister is evidently aware of it, but as of about a year ago—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I am informed that there is nothing in the regulations or in the Act that guarantees this as a right, but I am informed that the practice of the board is to allow this, and the building-in of this as a right or a safeguard, as I say, will come in the legislation that the Attorney General is preparing—a sort of omnibus legislation.

Mr. Braithwaite: You mean that the minute you send instructions down to each sitting of the board, each member of the board, that this statement must be read to the applicant prior to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I do not think we do that.

Mr. Braithwaite: How are we certain that it has not—

Hon. Mr. Wells: In general discussion with the board, as I understand, this is a procedure they follow, and the chairman I assume is told all the details that this is to be followed.

Mr. Trotter: I do not know how things are run in the Peterborough area and I am not personally familiar with the people who distribute some of this information to the members of the Legislature. Some of it that I would know of I found to be accurate, but this one chap in setting out how long it takes to have an appeal board, this is one quotation:

In Ontario it often takes 50 to 60 days to get a ruling that you should not have been denied assistance. This is not a completely thorough analysis of the situation, because I thought I should write you immediately so that these changes will not be put into effect before your examination of them.

He was making reference to a number of changes under The General Welfare Act, but they seem to be of the opinion in Peterborough, this is one organization that before one can get an appeal heard it often takes 50 to 60 days. Would there be any difference in the Peterborough area than in any other area, because I have understood that the length of time was 40 days, which I thought was long enough. Particularly when half the people who are cut off from benefits

evidently should not have been cut off, and now it could easily be not 40 days but up to 60 days.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think you are just misconstruing it a little when you say half are cut off. We just said that half the appeals are granted and half are denied, but they are not all a straight “you are on” or “you are off” kind of thing. There are all kinds of variations.

Mr. Trotter: Do you know what percentage are cut off completely?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I could not tell you that now. Eighty per cent of all cases were decided within the 40 days, 14 per cent within the next 20 days, and only six per cent took longer than that in the review we asked by the end of 1970 by the chairman of the board.

Mr. Trotter: Is it apt to take longer to get your case reviewed if you are in northern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no. They are on the go up there just as easily as if it is down here. The ones that take longer, or are a little more complicated, sometimes they have to get certain information, things that are not as easily obtained. They may have to adjourn to get additional information, or they may have to ask for material to come from another province in some cases, and things like this that may cause a little longer time.

Mr. Braithwaite: Does the board have discretion in those cases to allow a person to go on benefit until a decision is made?

Hon. Mr. Wells: In other words, the municipal assistance is available. That is, if they are appealing a municipal ruling they can still carry that on. If it is a family benefits case and it is still a hardship and it has been turned down for some reason and they can prove the hardship to the municipal people they can get that assistance while the case is cleared up.

Mr. Trotter: In other words, the board has the power over the local welfare authority?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, oh no.

Mr. Trotter: They cannot?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, the board is a quasi-judicial board, they do not have any power.

In legal terminology their decision shall be deemed to be that of the director.

Mr. Braithwaite: If there is going to be a long delay why could not the board have some sort of power such as that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, that is a good consideration and, as I say, now that the board is hearing more cases the matter of what happens to the person in the interval while the appeal is on should perhaps be considered, and we will have to take a look at that.

Mr. Trotter: When you say the board sits, I know there are a number of people who are members of the review board. How many sit in on a case?

Hon. Mr. Wells: One person usually hears the case—I am sorry, it could be two or three.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, you could do your best to try and pick your judge if you could. You have better luck with certain people. You are more apt to have better luck with someone from, say, "Action Line," than an old time social worker. A guess is a guess. Is that what it would be?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know.

Mr. Braithwaite: Well, what if there is a split between two people on the board?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know. You are asking about an internal working of the board.

Mr. Trotter: Is there somebody in charge of the board you can ask?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are in a bit of a quandary, I suppose. The board does not really work for our department although the staff are employees of our department and they have to do with the regulation of our department but, as I say, they are a quasi-judicial board.

Mr. Braithwaite: But the department is responsible for the board and I am asking what happens if there is a situation like that? Do you step in and—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh no.

Mr. Braithwaite: Well, then, what does happen?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I suppose a third person reviews the case with them and they try to arrive at a decision in that way with the three

of them so that they can come down on a two-one basis.

Mr. Braithwaite: Has it ever happened?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am told not.

Mr. Trotter: I think when they read of these cases, I often suspect they flipped a coin, because there is one fellow allowed a fuel allowance on the basis of \$29 a ton. The board came down and said the allowance should be \$32 a ton, but the price of coal was actually \$35.50. So when I read that I thought maybe they had flipped a coin—they sawed it off in the middle.

Is there any way of keeping a record of cases, even if they are called a number—not using people's names—so that we have some guide to how rulings are made?

Hon. Mr. Wells: At this point the decisions of the board have not been made public, that is, to the extent that they are published and made known to the person who appeals.

Mr. Trotter: Oh, yes, I understand that. But is there any way, if they had kept some type of record on the decisions, just on a coal decision—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, yes, I am sure the board would keep their record of decisions.

Mr. Trotter: So it would almost—

Hon. Mr. Wells: But they do not necessarily pass each decision on to us. Do we get a copy of each one? Oh, yes we do.

Mr. Trotter: I imagine they would get a great deal of practical knowledge from their decisions as to how the regulations could be amended.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, we do, we get a copy so we are able to read them and do get a total picture of what is happening.

Mr. Deans: Is there a verbatim transcript of the hearing as it goes on?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No.

Mr. Deans: How then would a person appeal to a higher court if there was not a transcript of the evidence presented? On what would they base their appeal, not knowing what evidence was actually presented? And how would a lawyer—since lawyers are not permitted in to represent the person who is appealing—be able to determine whether a person had received justice?

Hon. Mr. Wells: A lawyer can come with the person who is appealing if he wishes.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Chairman, I had occasion to represent someone at one of these appeal board hearings in Hamilton and I recall that there was a stenographer present with the board who took down the minutes of the discussion.

Mr. Braithwaite: Could the minister state whether an individual could get legal aid? Would his department recommend the giving of legal aid to supply a lawyer to attend at one of these things?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, if the need is there, sure. But as I say, we do not want to make this a case where there always has to be an adversary approach.

Mr. Gisborn: I would hope not, I would hope we would not give legal aid either to this or the compensation board.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right, but you know what is happening at the compensation board, it is becoming like a court, and this has tended to be not like that. I do not know how many of you read the first report of the board of review, but you will read in there the statement which very fully describes how they try to hold these hearings and stress informality and so forth.

If a person wishes a transcript he can request it and one will be made at his hearing, just as if he can have lawyers in if he wants to. Apparently the appeal is only on questions of law and not on substance up to decision, so that apparently it has been found that the decision of the board and the summary of it is sufficient evidence to launch an appeal on the points of law the minister feels—

Mr. Braithwaite: How many appeals have been taken to a higher court in the last year?

Mr. Deans: I believe it is three.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Three?

Mr. Braithwaite: How did they split?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Three, and one was withdrawn. Two—

Mr. Braithwaite: What decisions were arrived at in the two?

Mr. Deans: They lost them both. The recipient lost both.

Hon. Mr. Wells: On a question of law they lost both.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Minister, what would your comment be then toward a person like Simon Fodden, who said:

I am a firm believer in maximum scrutiny of public policies, by lawyers, by reporters, by the general public. This open discussion is held in most other fields and should be held in welfare matters as well. The public has a right to know how its government's agencies are behaving.

Both Fodden and civil liberties lawyer Borovoy believe that the only way to have this scrutiny is to have the provincial government change the law permitting the board to publish its decisions and the reasons for them.

They say the names of the individuals involved in the field should not be made public. Why could that not be? Why could the report not be made public without using the names of the recipients? Why could it not be open to reporters?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I suppose there is no particular reason why not, but it all tends to begin to make this a much more formal, legalistic type of operation that in some way, I think, would ultimately in the end act to the detriment of the people who are getting the allowances if Workmen's Compensation Board decisions are not published.

However, this matter will all be handled again in the Attorney General's bill.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Are you not inclined to think the people would fare better if they were treated with an open hearing rather than a closed hearing?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would not necessarily think so. I do not think that it follows. I do not agree with Mr. Borovoy's approach on this at all. I think that, in certain cases, it makes for lots of publicity, but I do not think it necessarily follows that the recipient would be better treated. In fact, I think it would prove very embarrassing for some of them and it might destroy some of their—

Mrs. M. Renwick: But it would bring out how the government agencies are behaving and what the problems are that are coming before the review board, whereas right now nothing is coming out. No one has any idea.

Mr. Gisborn: Is the press barred from the hearing?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Trotter.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This all presupposes that the government agencies are the big bad boys and everybody is trying to do somebody in. This is just not so. I think that the members of our review board are all conscientious people who are trying to help the recipients and they are trying to administer a programme in a humane way.

Mr. Deans: That is how the Workmen's Compensation Board started out.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Let us not follow that.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, I would not want to see the review board get too legalistic, but the thing that I think that should be emphasized is the fact that so many appeals are allowed by the review board. For example, in your law system, if you ever had the percentage of appeals allowed that the review board allows, there would be a real scandal that something was wrong with the courts.

And it does indicate that, on the local level, some of the authorities are just too tough with the people that evidently are entitled to the benefits and are not getting it. So I would hope that the minister would bring this home to the local people that are administering the Act.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would suspect that they are not. You know, the appeals are probably divided between local level ones and family benefits. Do not throw all the onus on the local level. There would probably be just as many family benefits appeals as those of municipal general welfare assistance.

Mr. Deans: You will, of course, be making a study to see whether or not there are more appeals coming from certain areas, to determine whether or not there is any problem in regard to the—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, yes.

Mr. Deans: And this will be available very shortly?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just do not think that we should criticize the board or the system because a lot of the appeals are being granted.

Mr. Trotter: It shows how human the board is.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. And this is not a court of law. This is a procedure to provide some checks on a system that is granting a lot of allowances, and there are grey areas

and interpretive areas and there are sometimes other facts that come forward at the cases and so forth. So that I think that it is serving its useful purpose, it is a necessary thing. And what we are really looking at now is to make it even more effective, as a proper instrument in this process and one that can be easily accessible to the people, so that no one feels that they have any hesitation about appealing to the board. This is what I would really feel, if people felt that they could not appeal because they could not get a lawyer or they felt that they were going to be in a public hearing like a court and they said: "Oh, it is not worth it." I would not want them to feel this way about it and I think that so far the board has done a good job in this regard.

Mr. Braithwaite: A point of information: Did I understand the minister, Mr. Chairman, to say that before the appeal goes to the board somebody higher up than the social worker reviews it? Sometimes a decision is made there? Did I understand him correctly?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not if it is an official appeal but you see what will—

Mr. Braithwaite: I mean prior to the appeal.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but you see, what will often happen is, say an allowance is cancelled and a person suddenly gets a letter and it says their allowance or family benefit is cancelled or it is reduced, and they are up in Sault Ste. Marie. They will go around to the regional office and they will say—or they will write to their member or something like that—and they will say: "My allowance has been cancelled".

The regional officer or the local member will immediately get in touch with us, with Miss Crittenden of this department, and our own review procedure will go into effect to check that all out. And it may be found that some inexperienced clerk has made a clerical error, or a piece of information has come in that got in the wrong file. There are all kinds of reasons that could happen, in which case, somebody may immediately find that allowance should not have been lowered, and then it will just go right back and the allowance will be put back or some action will be taken.

Now, it may be that everything was in order and the allowance was supposed to be withdrawn, in which case the information will go back to the person and they will then get the form and they will be told: "I am sorry,

that is the way the department sees it at this point—"

Mr. Braithwaite: And then you must appeal.

Hon. Mr. Wells: "—then you must appeal". MrRuer, as you will recall, suggests another procedure, which I think we will be bringing in when the Attorney General brings in his amendments, and that is that instead of just a letter to a person saying to a person his allowance is suspended or reduced, it will say: "We intend to suspend or reduce your allowance and invite your comments on this subject," and give them then an opportunity of doing this before the actual letter goes out. That is the kind of thing that MrRuer suggested and that is what we are moving toward.

Mr. Braithwaite: Could your department not go one step further and, before cancellation is made, have a review of your own, and then there would not be—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean a review hearing of our own?

Mr. Braithwaite: No, no. Just a review of the facts by someone—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is exactly what would be done. Under the new procedure, even if a person did take the time to come into the office or talk to his member or something, he would get a letter and the letter would say, "We intend to reduce your allowance. If you would like to make some submissions to us on this, fill out the enclosed form." They would fill it out right away. The allowance has not been reduced, merely notice of intent to reduce has been given; this would come back and that review that you said would be held.

Mr. Braithwaite: You are assuming that they would immediately fill it out. But many people, as you know, might look at the thing, but they are going to be cut in half and then what do you do?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know. I suppose under law if a person is informed of an intent to do something and takes no action themselves, well then, you assume—

Mr. Braithwaite: Oh, now, now—you cannot assume that everybody is as well educated as you!

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I realize that. I do not know if we have worked anything out—this is all new, and, as I say, this is the kind of

thing we are looking at at the present time, to move the one step further that MrRuer suggested.

Mr. Deans: There is one question to go with that. You have a case worker in cases? There is a visitor?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Deans: A field worker? Why does the field worker not go out and explain to the recipient that the decision has been reached, based on this, this and this, that his benefit is going to be reduced, and at that point sit with the individual, discuss it, fill out the form, and send it in?

It cannot be happening to everyone all the time so obviously it should be able to be handled. That way you are getting to everyone, you are talking to them, explaining to them why it has happened.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess it is something we can take a look at. It might—we are using our staff to—

Mr. Deans: Well, the visiting—

Mr. Braithwaite: You do not have enough staff to do that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are using our staff pretty well to the fullest degree.

Mr. Braithwaite: How about all these kids that are coming out of the community colleges that cannot get jobs? How about using some of these youngsters to do that sort of job?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We do not have unlimited complement that we can hire at will. But it is a possibility.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Trotter.

Mr. Trotter: I have one final question, Mr Chairman. This figure, item No. 5 on this vote, \$458,000 for research and planning. In spending that money what are you actually researching and planning? If possible, could you tell me what you are going to bring forth?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Which amount is that? Research and planning—

Mr. Trotter: No. 5 on this vote, \$458,000.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think I went through that about an hour and a half ago, but I guess you—

Mr. Trotter: No, I am talking research and planning but I am trying to find out what you are doing.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The hon. member for Scarborough Centre asked me that, the first question tonight. I indicated the research and planning branch is doing two things.

It does research projects on its own of a nature connected with the aims of our department, the general scope of our department. It also does all the backup work for us to help us formulate the policy decisions in the areas that we have responsibility for. In fact it spends a lot of time in this area. For instance, for our federal-provincial conferences, it works on both our behalf and the whole government in this area.

Mr. Trotter: In producing a white paper, that is where this comes from?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I mean all these things are what is done. It is also doing work such as a research project being carried out with York University to interview 500 mothers on family benefits. This will be published this summer.

Mr. Trotter: Oh, yes, I did hear that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It will have responsibility in the research that we are going to do on daycare. It will play a big part in the programme, if we embark on it, on the income supplement research. They handle the preparation of the monthly statistical bulletin that we put on. They have been working on the federal-provincial task force on alienation. They have done work there.

They have been working on Bill C-192, on a joint interdepartmental committee. In that vote, there are moneys given to demonstration projects which come under the research and planning branch and which they oversee, and they take from these projects certain things that can be of help generally. In other words, they have the general overseeing on behalf of our department. One is that York University project which is the interviewing of 500 mothers and preparing the published report.

The others are the Markham Family Life Centre, which is a centre in Markham that is experimenting in certain areas; Project Ossington, which has to do with young people who are drug users; the Hawkesbury Workshop, which is again a project to retrain unemployed young persons.

The Metro social services gave a grant there to see what administrative changes

could be made in order to improve the operation of a municipal social service department. They made a grant to McMaster University for a study on physically abused children. They are supporting a project called Home Base; this is a home for former male wards of the Children's Aid Society. That is the group of—

Mr. B. Newman: Are these reports available from all of these research projects?

Hon. Mr. Wells: When they are completed, there will be review reports available.

Mr. B. Newman: Will they be made available to the members?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, we could if you would ask us.

Mr. B. Newman: I would appreciate receiving any of them.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Most of this research—some of it is going on; some of these projects I mentioned have been funded. Some have been funded last year and this year.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Braithwaite.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Chairman, on what the minister is just saying. Is the Canadian Mothercraft Society being funded with reference to their training of inner-city mothers, who are on welfare, to become facilitators to work with parents in inner-city homes as daycare workers. Is there any provision for funds from this department for that project?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They have asked us for money, and to this point we are not giving them any money. No, there is no funding for that.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is there any particular reason they are not getting any money?

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is a meeting scheduled next week with them. We have, as I explained to the committee when I was here on daycare a few weeks ago, worked out a couple of daycare research projects. One of them overlaps the mothercraft one, and there is only enough money in this vote to do two of the three. We cannot do all three and we are going to have a meeting with the Mothercraft Society next week to see and decide.

Mr. Braithwaite: One other question, with reference to the minister's announcement on the changing of family benefit allowances for older people. I wrote the minister on May

12, with reference to file FBA 62458A. I am wondering just what provision or what steps his department is going to take with reference to what has been an overpayment?

Perhaps if I read a short letter from Miss J. Scorsone, of your department, it might just clarify it all. There are other facts involved in this case, but I just wanted to read:

We wish to advise that the allowance you are receiving under The Family Benefits Act has been decreased from \$56.25 per month, effective from May 1, 1971, for the following reasons. Due to an increase in Mr. P's old age security, effective April 1, 1971; since the increase was effective in April, but your family benefits allowance was not reduced until May, an overpayment has been created in your file in the amount of \$20. We will recover this overpayment by deducting \$6.67 per month from your present eligible rate of \$56.25. Therefore, May and future cheques will go forward to you in the amount of \$49.58 until the overpayment has been fully recovered. The cheque which you will receive at the end of May will be \$49.58.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That will all be taken care of.

Mr. Braithwaite: What I wanted to know is, what about where you have been deducting for this overpayment?

Hon. Mr. Wells: She will be reimbursed. You see, what had happened there is they should really have started reduction on April 1, under the existing rules that were in effect at that time, which we changed today. They are retroactive to April 1. We are paying the ones from whom we deducted for April and May; what we have deducted they will be paid back, so she will get back whatever has been deducted of that first part.

Mr. Braithwaite: That is a form letter that your department sends out. I presume there have been many cases.

Hon. Mr. Wells: What I guess has happened is they were not able to pick them all up quickly enough to get them in effect by April 1. They have had a few. Would that be many, Mr. McKnight?

Mr. J. E. McKnight (Family Benefits Branch): This problem arises from the relatively early cutoff date in the month in order to reconcile the payments and the cheques by the end of the month. There would be a number here, because that

regulation was not available, if my memory serves me, until early April, I think. There would be a number that were handled in this manner, which would not be handled in the mainstream. Most were adjusted in April.

Mr. Braithwaite: To carry on on the same case, Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is Mr. Jack McKnight, the director of the family benefits branch.

Mr. Braithwaite: I see. The same lady wrote to your department and received a letter dated June 12, 1970, from the same Miss J. Scorsone: "We wish to advise that the allowance you are receiving under The Family Benefits Act has been decreased to \$76.25."

In other words what has been happening from 1967 forward is it has been going down all the time; a little bit at a time. I will read the letter first; this also is a form letter, by the way.

Effective from July 1, 1970, for the following reason: Due to a decrease in your rent since April 1, 1970, in view of the above an overpayment has been created on your file. You were paid in assistance from April 1 to June 30, 1970, a total of \$249, whereas you were only eligible to receive a total of \$195.75, resulting in an overpayment of \$53.25. We will recover this overpayment by deducting \$5.33 per month from your present eligible rate of \$76.25. Therefore, July and future cheques will go forward to you in the amount of \$70.92 until the overpayment has been fully recovered.

It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that this sort of thing—it is peanuts we are talking about! I am wondering if it does not cost as much to send out a letter as it does to deduct the \$5.33 in this particular case. Is this a widespread thing? Does this go on all the time? Do older people have this sort of trouble?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think, Mr. Chairman, it is a problem in any benefits programme that there are changing circumstances. Allowances are paid according to certain rules that are laid down. Accommodation changes and the allowance for it changes; unfortunately, sometimes it is not picked up right away, so there has to be some adjustment. Unfortunately, there has to be a recourse. I guess we just do not have any alternative. The auditors do not allow us, for instance, to write that off.

Mr. Braithwaite: Would it not save your department money if you set some limit—say \$30 or something like that—and there was no intentional attempt at deceit on the part of the individual? I am wondering if it would not save your department an awful lot of time and money to just write it off if you cannot keep up with it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not really think we could, and what we would save is not a lot of money—

Mr. Gisborn: Is there not a federal government implication there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The federal government might be in on it too and they would have to agree. But the last time I asked for something in this department and said that to do that little thing would not cost much, somebody said, "No, just \$550,000!" It is surprising how you take one of those and then you find the number of times it has happened and you find you are into \$500,000. The auditor would not let us do this kind of thing.

Mr. Braithwaite: Maybe you could tell me then—going back to your announcement today—this retroactive repayment of the deduction that was made for the month of April, 1971. Just how much money is going to be involved as repayment?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am afraid I do not have the amount that will be repaid. All I know is that the amount that it will cost to do that is \$648,000. The cost of picking up those people whose allowances were reduced is \$648,000.

Mr. Braithwaite: You are not talking about the \$30?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, just that one item.

Mr. Braithwaite: You are talking about the retroactive part?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The retroactive part and then carrying that on for the rest of this fiscal year. For one full year it is going to cost \$648,000, of which half will be shared.

Mr. Braithwaite: No, I am just talking about the amounts that would be paid prior to the announcement.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess the only way you could fund this is to divide the \$648,000 by six, then you would get the amount it would cost for the two months.

Mr. Gisborn: Does that include the increase?

Mr. B. Newman: Approximately \$100,000?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is \$108,000.

Mr. Gisborn: If we are dealing with that in this vote there are a couple of questions I would—

Hon. Mr. Wells: We really should not be. But that is part of the programme vote in 2, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have an item I would like to bring up under personnel and training services. I would like to know what your policy is about hiring field workers.

There was a chap from my riding who was interested in finding work with the department. I wrote on his behalf and he was asked to come down and fill an application form. He came to Toronto, and had an interview with one of your personnel officers and was told at that time that there was not a job available for that time but that they would keep his name on file and when something came up he would be contacted.

Time went on and we made further inquiries but there was no job available. The next thing we know there was an advertisement in the Timmins Press for a job for a bilingual field worker for the Kapuskasing area and this man was not called or anything like this. You can well imagine the feeling that the fellow had that he was bypassed and he thought that the department was still interested in him and waiting for an appointment to come up.

I think this is rather a bad personnel policy. If a fellow does not qualify, or you are not interested in having him for a specific type of work, I think you should have the courtesy to say: "Thank you for coming and showing an interest, but you do not qualify. You have not got the qualifications and the background we need for this particular job," rather than keeping the man dangling in midair like that and seeing an ad in the paper for the same job and not even getting consideration.

The man showed a lot of interest and spent a fair amount of money to come to Toronto for a particular interview.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Hunter, our director of personnel is here but I do not know whether you want to get into specifics because we

would have to know his name and I do not think the committee would want to do that.

Mr. Ferrier: No, I am not that interested in pursuing the man's complaint at this point, but I am interested in knowing if you accept applications from citizens of the province for a job and lead them to believe that you are likely going to appoint them when a vacancy occurs and then you do not have any intention of doing this. Surely you have to play fair with these people and say—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I disagree with you in that.

Mr. Ferrier: If a person is not eligible or if you cannot fit him in, surely you have got to say, "I am sorry, but we cannot fit you into our programme." It seems to me the only fair thing to do.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am speaking in broad generalities. I would agree with you completely, but I am sure that all of us, speaking as a member of this Legislature, had this happen to someone that we have recommended, particularly if people apply for one job and then another job that is very much related, but not exactly, they wonder why, somehow, the application did not get over and be considered for that job too through the civil service. And it is very often difficult to explain.

I do not know. Mr. Hunter, is there anything that you would like to add to that? I do not think we should get into the specifics of dealing with the person because I do not think that is fair to him. We would be glad to talk to you about that part but just general policies. Would you say that?

Mr. J. Hunter (Personnel Branch): Yes, I would have to agree with what has been said so far. I think that this sounds like an individual case and we receive in the vicinity of more than a thousand applications in a year for this particular type of job. I would like to know the circumstances myself that you are referring to and I would certainly be pleased to hear from you on that, because the general policy is that a person is either accepted or rejected and if the person could be considered in the future—this sounds like the case that you are referring to—then he should be put into the competition fresh the next time the vacancy occurs in that area. I would like to really hear the circumstances involved here.

Mr. Ferrier: I will speak to you afterwards about it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Right on this point, Mr. Chairman, do not all applications go to the Civil Service department rather than directly to your department?

Mr. Hunter: No, they do not all go to The Department of Civil Service. The Department of Civil Service has delegated the responsibility for recruitment outside of Metropolitan Toronto to the operating department.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, this does seem strange because, you see, I brought up the question of employment for students and I am referred to the Civil Service department. Now I find that certain applications actually go to this department rather than to the Civil Service now.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have never heard of anybody sending student applications to the Civil Service.

Mr. B. Newman: Oh yes, for summer employment, you are darn right. I have been told that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have always sent all mine to departments.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Wells: When I was a private member I used to send them—

Mr. Pilkey: You would have more drag.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I wonder sometimes.

Mr. Deans: Why do you not send your applications for summer employment—why do you not send your summer employment possibilities to the student Manpower centres that are set up by the federal government? I was led to believe it was a co-operative effort with both levels of government. Why do you not, as The Department of Social and Family Services, hire them through there so that a student would know where to go to look for a job, rather than send 50 applications to all the different departments?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The plain and simple fact is that nobody has any shortage of applications. They come in quite unsolicited and voluntarily and no department really has to sit back and look for any from anywhere from outside. Once Christmas arrives, the mail is just full of applications and you have way more than you can ever take care of. And they are all from bona fide students.

Mr. Deans: There is no doubt about that at all. It is like everything else. If a student calls me and says, "How do I get a job in government?" I tell him I have not the foggiest idea: "You apply." Where? Well, you send a letter to everybody and you do that.

Surely it would be easier to apply at the office that is set up for the purpose of finding employment for students? It would be better for everybody. They could put their application in there and say what kind of work they were interested in.

It would make this office function; it might even provide employment. There is no telling all the great things that may happen just by using that office. It might even find a spot for somebody other than babysitting or those rather menial low-paying jobs.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that is perhaps a question you could direct to the minister responsible for the civil servants, because I know this has been talked about. But I really do not have any direct involvement. All I know is that as far as summer jobs for our department are concerned they have an overabundance of applications that come in directly. They do not have to look around.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, this is really important, because when we debated the estimates of The Department of Public Works I specifically asked a question concerning summer employment and I was told that you filed with The Department of Civil Service. Now I come into this department and I find you do not use the Civil Service department, you use your own department.

There has to be some clearing house within government where a student looking for summer employment applies to one department and one branch of government only—let it then be funnelled to the various departments.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think there was an attempt to do so and perhaps it was not complete this year. We will complete it next year. As you know, all the ministers changed right in the middle of the whole process.

I think it was the intention to make the Civil Service Commission some kind of a central agency for summer employment. I think that perhaps is what will happen next year.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is a system going to be set up on IBM or that sort of thing?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know, but I know we suggested this when I was chairman of

interdepartmental committee on youth and we looked at this matter, but it is really not under my department now.

Mr. Deans: Are you prepared to initiate that move, as the minister in charge of this department, to say that you would like to see all the student hiring done through one central office?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not saying it will be done through one central office, but they might act as a clearing house for the applications so that people would not have to send them to five different departments. That would be the purpose of it.

If a person is interested in social work, or the social field, working with people, he wants to work in this department or The Department of Health, and he does not want to work in Lands and Forests, so he put that down. He does not want to apply somewhere and have someone say, "We have got you a job in the provincial park up in Kenora," and he says, "But I did not want to do that. I wanted to work in the Ontario Hospital in Orillia." So that is why you have to get this all sorted out.

Mr. Deans: There is a difference—subtle though it may be, there is a difference.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And that is what they try to do.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to carry this one step further because it is all right for the minister to come along and say the civil service should be taking care of this. But you see, a student does not know the job opportunities that are available to him through the 20-some branches of government.

There should be some source from government that says there are X number of jobs available in department A, B, C and D.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Fourteen thousand.

Mr. B. Newman: It is all right to say 14,000. That is a ball park figure.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but there are.

Mr. B. Newman: How many are you providing?

Hon. Mr. Wells: How many have we got? We are not one of the big providers. We have got 200.

Mr. B. Newman: There you are, Mr. Minister, you are saying 14,000 but you really

do not know, do you? That is the same as the 20,000 or so, or 120,000 jobs the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Grossman) was going to try to tell us—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, No. I know a little about it because as I say I was in on this this from the beginning when I was chairman of the interdepartmental committee on youth and there were 9,000 or 10,000 men. But we have 260 in this special service programme—the summer service programme is 260. Those are the ones we are placing out in agencies—50 a week—\$400 for the summer. And what have we got in the department?

Mr. Hunter: In regular summer employment we have approximately 100 jobs this summer.

Mr. Braithwaite: Did you mimeograph the list of these openings and send him to all the colleges and the community colleges so that the students would know about it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It was my understanding that somebody along the way was informing all the university placement services of job opportunities available in the government. Now I do not know just what—

Mr. Braithwaite: No, I am talking about your department.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I do not think we did. If we did it would be part of the total programme.

Mr. Hunter: The opportunities for employment within the provincial government service of course are well advertised by The Department of Civil Service in their central recruiting programmes to the universities and the community colleges. This also gives an opportunity to know about summer employment. I do deal with this while they are visiting on the college campuses.

Mr. B. Newman: I would sort of dispute that, Mr. Chairman, because I will tell you,

I have received approximately 200 letters from students asking for summer employment in government service.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Who has not?

Mr. B. Newman: But you say it is all well advertised at the universities. How well advertised if I get that many requests from a university?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Because they think it is much better to get hold of their member than to apply through the university or Canada Manpower.

Mr. B. Newman: I do not think so, Mr. Minister. I certainly would like some type of clearing house in government so that students would know that X number of jobs are available in this department, a certain number are available in another department, and have one central office through which they could be funnelled.

Mr. Pilkey: Are you sure you did not put an ad in the paper saying “Students wanting summer jobs get a hold of their member”?

Mr. B. Newman: I never put ads in the paper. I do not even put ads in when the campaigns are on. Sixty-four dollars is what I spent in the last election in the newspaper.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Sixty-four dollars?

Mr. Chairman: I think we have had a full discussion on the departmental administration programme.

Shall vote 2001 carry?

Vote 2001 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: With that I think we will adjourn until 11 o'clock tomorrow and we will be on vote 2002, page 274.

The committee adjourned at 10:28 o'clock, p.m.

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Social and
Family Services

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Friday, May 28, 1971

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1971

The committee met at 11:05 o'clock, a.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. O. F. Ville-neuve in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES

(continued)

Mr. Chairman: We are going to call this meeting to order; we have a quorum.

We are on vote 2002, page 274, social development programme. Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wrote a letter to the previous minister (Mr. Yaremko) about this subject and I would like to get some reaction from this minister (Mr. Wells) about it. It is the supplementary programme, such as the cost of travel to and from Toronto for people who have to come down to see doctors, the cost of dentures and eye glasses and these kinds of things.

Particularly for those people who are on provincial pensions, when they have to come long distances from northern Ontario to Toronto to see a medical specialist of some kind or other or for hospitalization or surgery, this can impose a pretty heavy burden on northern municipalities. Many of the municipalities do not have a wide range of specialty services in medicine, as the minister will realize, and to have to pick up the cost of this on a 50-50 basis imposes a pretty heavy burden upon many of the northern municipalities.

I have had one of the district welfare officers suggest that it would not be a bad idea if The Department of Social and Family Services were to take a coach on the ONR train running from the northeast to Toronto. He thinks it would almost pay for itself in terms of the amount that has to be paid out regularly on this kind of expenditure. And when you are paying large amounts for travel, it means sometimes the amount that can be budgeted for these other supplementary items has got to be cut back.

I do not know whether there is any move afoot to consider this whole matter of the

cost of travel, particularly those whose are on family benefits; but it would be only fair that the province pick up the 50 per cent share rather than leave it on the municipalities. I think it also would be helpful if at least a higher subsidy could be given to those who are on general welfare assistance.

I think it would be perfectly in order and only fair that the provincial government pay part of the subsidy on some of those other items. I understand the provincial and municipal governments pay it on a 50-50 basis. I was told by one of the welfare officers that there was a waiting list of about 300, I think, before dentures or eye glasses could be provided—I am not sure which. When you have this kind of a backlog it means that people—poor people—have to wait for essential things for an unfortunate length of time. I wonder if the minister would care to comment on these suggestions?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. member raises a very valid point. It is one of the areas that I have been looking at since I came in. I really think that we probably should be paying or sharing on an 80 per cent basis, the same as we are in the other programmes, but to this point I have not had a chance to be able to do anything about it. Of course it necessitates convincing my colleagues that this is what we should do.

I cannot argue with the case put by the member. It does present a burden to the municipality. The only other thing I would say is that I think a lot of these changes should be looked at—and indeed are being looked at—in the light of a total set of arrangements with municipalities vis-à-vis provincial sharing.

In other words, at the present time we are putting together things so that we can talk to municipalities—not just our department, but all the departments—about how much they are asked to pay under this programme and how much we subsidize all the different programmes of government vis-à-vis the unconditional grant. Because they all become interrelated sooner or later when you talk to a municipality. They want to be relieved of

the burden in one area, but they want you to up their allotment or grant in other areas; you have to decide which is a proper municipal charge, I guess, and which is better absorbed as a completely federal or provincial charge. Even apart from that, I cannot argue with the member's case, that perhaps there should be at least the same sharing as for the supplemental aid, and hopefully we might be able to do something about it.

Mr. Ferrier: We would certainly appreciate it if you could.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Peacock.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to raise with the minister a particular case of a recipient under The Family Benefits Act because I think it illustrates one of the difficulties of administration, particularly in the relationship between tenants of the Ontario Housing Corporation who are also recipients of either the minister's family benefits programme or his general welfare assistance programme.

Last summer I was in touch with a person who lives just outside the boundary of my constituency, in the constituency of Windsor-Walkerville in Windsor, and lives in an Ontario Housing Corporation project. The mother was the head of the family, the husband was very seriously disabled as a result of brain surgery, and there was a very large number of children in the family. I have got to go over the record of this particular person's case a little bit to illustrate the problems.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You do not know the number of children she had?

Mr. Peacock: I will deal with that, Mr. Chairman. This goes back to the change in the benefit structure, to the introduction of The Canada Assistance Act in April, 1967. As a tenant, the family had been paying a rent of \$75 a month from April, 1966, to May, 1967, to the Windsor Housing Authority and at that time the benefit from The Department of Social and Family Services was \$370 per month.

As a result, I believe, of the changes in the benefit structure, the rent was raised because Windsor Housing Authority and all the other local housing authorities learned from the department that allowances for shelter costs and other matters had been raised. Accordingly, the local housing authority raised the rent for the period June, 1967, to August, 1967, to \$85 a month. But,

because the size of the family was such that it was already receiving the maximum entitlement under the new programme which came into effect April 1, 1967, there was no change in the \$370 a month from Social and Family Services.

There was a further increase in rent. In September, 1967, the local housing authority raised it to \$125 a month when they learned that they were not yet getting the maximum shelter allowance available to a person with that size family. And that was the rental, \$125, payable out of a benefit of \$370 a month.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Still no change in the \$370?

Mr. Peacock: No change in the \$370. I am not sure what number of children there were at that time, eight or nine. In any event, it was the number at which the maximum benefit became payable and for 14 months this recipient paid \$125 a month in rent to Windsor Housing out of a total benefit of \$370.

It was not until December, 1968, that finally, in despair, she succeeded in getting a reduction in the rent. Her case worker came for a visit—and I understand these visits occur approximately only once in six months when a person is on regular benefit—and the case worker said, "Well, obviously the rent is excessive for the amount of income you are receiving, we will see what we can do to get it reduced." The case worker succeeded in getting approval of a reduction from Windsor Housing Authority to \$100 a month. And that is the rent that is payable ever since.

Now, I would just like to read to the minister some of the letters received by the recipient from Windsor Housing Authority when, because of this very great difficulty in meeting the rent payments, she fell into arrears. The first letter is dated September 11, 1968, and says:

Your rent is now 11 days past due.

and in capital letters—

THIS IS MOST UNSATISFACTORY.

If these arrears are not paid in full by September 16, 1968, we shall turn your account over to the bailiff for collection. His minimum fee for rental collection is \$15. Further difficulty in rental collection will result in a notice to quit.

I should point out at this stage of my remarks, Mr. Chairman, that that was the first

occasion on which this tenant, who was also a recipient, got into difficulty with rent. It is quite obvious how it came about, paying \$125 a month out of a total benefit of \$370 and trying to feed and clothe the family.

I might say that particular household was one of the more carefully managed that I have been in and an extremely viable family, in spite of all the difficulties. The mother was obviously a very able manager of the moneys which were available to her, but she got into some difficulty because she could not handle the new rent of \$125.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Can I just ask, this accommodation was handled by the Windsor Housing Authority, not by the Ontario Housing Corporation at this time?

Mr. Peacock: That is right, it was the local housing authority acting as landlord, despite the disclaimer of the Minister of Trade and Development (Mr. Grossman) yesterday that local housing authorities are not landlords. But the local housing authority was operating under the operating manual issued by Ontario Housing Corporation for all local authorities, which they are supposed to follow.

On September 17 a further letter was written by Windsor Housing Authority to the tenant:

At present, your account is in arrears in the amount of \$125—

We will see in a moment it was not in fact in arrears of \$125.

—Is there any reason why we should not take the action mentioned in the enclosed letter?

If your account is not paid in full by Friday, September 20, 1968, we will turn your account over to the bailiff.

In future, all rents must be paid when they are due. Your due date is the first of every month.

Please govern yourself accordingly.

Yours very truly,

Project Manager.

The next letter from the housing authority returns a cheque for \$250 dated October 1, signed by the tenant and certified. It says:

We enclose your cheque dated October 1, 1968, in payment of your September 1, 1968, rent and your October 1, 1968, rent.

As we have advised you before, all rents are due and payable on the first of each month and we cannot accept a post-dated cheque on September 1, 1968 rent.

If this rent due September 1, 1968, is not paid in full by Monday, September 23, 1968, we will issue a notice to quit and obtain possession of the premises. We will not accept double payment on your account. Each month's rent must be paid for individually.

If you comply with this request, we expect to see a vast improvement in this account.

This is signed by the acting manager of the housing authority.

Now, I repeat that the cheque was for two months in the amount of \$250 and it was certified.

The next instalment, Mr. Chairman, is that the bailiff wrote a letter to the tenant, claiming the sum of \$125, plus costs, due October 1, 1968, against the tenant. I have here the cheque of the recipient in the amount of \$145, so that the bailiff took as his fee \$20, not the amount as stated by the Windsor Housing Authority as \$15.

There are other items of correspondence. Another cheque dated October 21 in the amount of \$125 was returned by the housing authority because it was late.

This is history, of course, in the sense that it took place several years ago, but it did not come to my attention until last summer.

I want to ask the minister, first of all, why it is that tenants who are also family benefit recipients, have to be placed in this position, as I have found so many of them to be. The minister's officials know that I have raised with them a number of such instances prior to this one.

I would like to ask, in this respect; is there anything that this particular recipient can do by way of a refund for the amount of rent that she obviously was paying in excess of her means, \$125 a month out of \$370? Surely, to begin with, consideration could be given by the department to some reinstatement of the benefit that should have been going to food and clothing which instead was going to rent, for all of those 14 months?

The amount budgeted for food, clothing, personal care, travel, medical needs and so on, could be restored for all of that period of time when the family was, in fact, deprived of sufficient income for these needs because of the policies of the housing authority and because of the failure—partly on the part of the tenant and partly on the

part of the case worker from The Department of Social and Family Services—to bring about the reduction in rent. This was obviously possible if a vigorous case worker had put the proposition to the housing authority and not allowed that kind of brutalizing correspondence to take place.

Believe me, I come into contact with this so frequently and so frequently that kind of correspondence from the housing authority is directed to clients of the minister. Obviously these are people who get behind a few dollars each month because of unexpected expense and, when the end of the month comes around they cannot meet the payment in full, and what they do offer on the rent is rejected.

That is where I would like to begin in respect of this particular case, as to whether there is any possibility of the department examining the circumstances of this family and finding a way to reimburse them for 14 months of payment of rent in the amount by which that rent was obviously in excess of what they could afford to pay.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will certainly take a look at the particular case and see. I cannot, off the top of my head, give you an answer exactly as to what could or could not be done in that case without a review, and I would be happy to look at that.

But it is my understanding—and I do not know that is goes back to when that case started—but I understood that those in public housing accommodation, if they are recipients, we had worked out a rent for them that was equivalent to the shelter allowance that we include for the recipients so no one would be put into this position. That was my understanding.

I also know that we do not, for instance,—at this point anyway—pay Ontario Housing on behalf of the tenants, because the idea is to have them in as near a normal situation as possible. In other words, they take care of that themselves. They get the allowance to pay their rent, you see. We do not say, "Well, your rent has been paid. It is in your allowance but we have given that portion to Ontario Housing."

It was my understanding that the amount that Ontario Housing charged in their accommodation for people on family benefits was the equivalent to our allowance.

Mr. Peacock: It is supposed to be so.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I say, without getting into the details of that case, how did they,

through all those years, charge more than the amount that we allowed for a shelter allowance? This could happen, there is no question it would happen, if they were living in private accommodation, of course.

Mr. Peacock: Right. In this particular circumstance, Mr. Chairman, there was no change in benefit to begin with because the family was already in receipt of the maximum under the old programme prior to April, 1967.

There was a period of time—this affected a number of tenants, I found, in Windsor—following the introduction of the new family benefits programme in April, 1967, in which the housing authorities were catching up on the amounts of shelter cost benefits being received by the client of the department, which they could claim as rent.

In one particular instance the family I was in touch with received month-by-month increases in rent and then had to turn around and apply to the department through the Windsor office of the family benefits branch for increases in the shelter cost allowance to catch up with the rent increases notified by the housing authority. The housing authority had learned that the tenant should be getting a certain amount for shelter costs, so the housing authority, under the agreement between Ontario Housing Corporation and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation is entitled to take all of that.

At that time it was \$85, plus \$5 for the second and each additional child, and it remains that for tenants who are in public housing, I believe. There was no change on May 1 of last year in respect to shelter cost allowance for those who are tenants of Ontario Housing Corporation or one of its local authorities.

So where there was no immediate adjustment in the shelter cost benefit for the tenant as a recipient of social and family services, the tenant was then in a position of having to turn around and apply to his case worker or her case worker or the department to catch up. They were only getting \$65 or \$75 when the local housing authority or OHC could claim \$85 or \$90, or \$95 or \$100 depending on the size of the family.

In a number of instances that I had to deal with at that time the tenant had to catch up with the allowance and go back and get his shelter cost allowance out of his total benefit raised to the \$85, the \$95 or the \$100 depending on the size of the family. Those sort of things have all been sorted out.

This particular case that I raised with you this morning illustrates something about the relationship between the housing authorities and your recipients. Secondly, it raises something about the relationship between the tenant and the case worker as to whether there is adequate communication there. Thirdly, it raises the question of communication between the general welfare administration and family benefits administration of this department, and the Ontario Housing Corporation and its local housing authorities. Both are clients; both are providing services to the same individual and yet so often this kind of thing happens.

Hon. Mr. Wells: In regard to the last, I would hope certainly—and I cannot really comment on what went on before—but I would hope that we would work in very close co-operation. Indeed, we are working at the present time in looking at the rents that are allowed in public housing and how it can be worked. It is being done in very close co-operation between the two of us at this time. Indeed, I agree with you, that is the only way it can be done.

I would hope that the other relationships would be good also; they should be now. I would be interested in knowing what you think. The proposition that is put to me quite often is that if a family benefits recipient, one of our recipients, does get in arrears an arrangement should be made where the rent could be paid by us to Ontario Housing.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, that is another subject, though.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, it is.

Mr. Peacock: Where a person voluntarily wishes to assign his benefit or that part of it for rent to the housing authorities.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not necessarily saying voluntarily. It has been suggested that if they habitually end up in arrears an arrangement be made to do this.

Mr. Peacock: In fact, it often happens.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not so much with our recipients, but I think under general welfare, the municipality moves in and makes this arrangement. Under the family benefits it does not happen at all, I do not think. There are some of them whom we know habitually get in arrears. It is only human nature—

Mr. Peacock: Sometimes it is because there is an exceptional expense for prescription drugs during the month.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, sure.

Mr. Peacock: Come the end of the month and the cheque is received from Toronto there just is not quite enough. There is \$5 or \$10 short. Depending on the variance from policy that the local housing authority practices, it may or may not refuse to accept partial payment of the rent and the kind of harassing takes place of the type I described this morning.

Last year, during the estimates for The Department of Trade and Development, the then minister (Mr. Randall) and I got into discussion of this same question. He was under the impression that The Department of Social and Family Services paid the rents directly to the local housing authorities and Ontario Housing Corporation.

He could not understand what I was talking about when I went through a large number of instances with him of tenants, who are also recipients of family allowances or general welfare assistance, who claim they were paying more in rent than they were being budgeted for in their benefit. There were indeed a large number of them, like the tenant I first described this morning, who pay utilities costs in addition to rent.

Yet many of the units which are occupied by tenants on general welfare assistance or family benefits are supposed to be fully serviced units. The rent, which is levied by OHC or the local housing authority, is supposed to pay for rent plus all services, except those designated in the lease.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are saying there are some people, even though we agreed on this shelter allowance—our allowance is supposed to cover their rent with OHC—who are having to pay other bills above that?

Mr. Peacock: That is correct.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Things which normally should be included in rent; are you getting some cases of that?

Mr. Peacock: That is right. There were 14 particular instances last summer that the housing corporation recognized.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that is something within our discussion—but not in all housing corporation premises. Some of them have an all-inclusive rent that covers everything.

Mr. Peacock: It simply depends on what services the housing corporation or the local authority claims to cover in the lease. Now in

respect to all of these tenants who were surveyed on what they were paying in rent, what they were paying for in utilities and what the lease provided, they all felt they were paying more rent than they should be because their allowance from Social and Family Services, or from the local welfare office, was much less for shelter than what they were being charged in rent.

The housing corporation agreed that there were 14 cases where reductions should be allowed, because the rent was in excess of the benefit being paid for shelter costs by The Department of Social and Family Services.

All I am saying to the minister is that this kind of communication is something that should be going on fairly regularly.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I say, it is my understanding that for administrative simplification we had agreed on this kind of a formula—and we are presently working out another formula with them.

Mr. Peacock: What is the policy of the department toward visits, the frequency of visits, by case workers to clients unless they are specifically called?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Maybe Mr. McKnight could comment on that.

Mr. J. E. McKnight (Family Benefits Branch): Mr. Chairman, we try to make the visits as infrequent as possible depending on the nature of the case. If one has a very stable situation we may not visit any more frequently than annually. In fact, we have made some inroads in this respect, in that we have introduced a mail-out reporting form for a considerable number of cases. If there are dependent children in the family and a number of ups and downs, for instance, in earnings, we might visit as often as quarterly. It would be no more frequently than quarterly unless there are changes of circumstances reported by the recipient, such as moving to new premises—that sort of situation.

Mr. Peacock: When the circumstances are such as I described this morning, how does the client or recipient then get in touch with his caseworker?

Mr. McKnight: Most of them contact the regional office by telephone or by letter; sometimes they write us directly. I think you and I have discussed this matter of the housing situation on a number of occasions. We pointed out that it is not easy to reconcile

the geared-to-income concept and the needs test programme, and therefore there were initially some difficulties which, in my view, have by and large been ironed out long since.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, there are really two sections of the Housing Corporation's rental programme. One, the rent geared to income, and the agreement with the department on allowing collection of rents and the allowances payable by the department.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, whether it is still viable is what we are carrying on negotiations about now. This was done, of course, initially for administrative efficiency so that there would not be fluctuations in the allowance every so often, which again would get them concerned. I suppose the concern comes up when they talk to one of their neighbours who, they find, is actually paying on the geared-to-income plan a rent that is less than the amount we allow him.

Yet, that person is being subsidized through Ontario Housing and he is a working person who is not on any allowance and is on the geared-to-income plan, so they get that special assistance in there and they think that they should get the same rent. Of course, Ontario Housing is subsidizing them, whereas in our case we are trying to work out an equitable rent with Ontario Housing. Now, that is the kind of negotiations we are carrying on now to see if we cannot try to get over that problem so that there can be some more relationship with our rents geared to income, because we realize that it does present a problem if you are living within the same accommodations.

Mr. Peacock: It results in some real anomalies between families.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Peacock: Some, as you say, earning income may be paying less rent than a family which is on disability benefit.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right, and they do not understand the reasons behind it and it is very hard to explain it.

Mr. Peacock: And it can result in a person's rent rising very suddenly when that person runs out of unemployment benefit, for instance, and as a tenant of Ontario Housing Corporation is paying a rent-geared-to-income scale of the minimum, perhaps \$38 a month, while on unemployment benefit, but once transferred with the termination of unemployment benefits to general welfare assist-

ance or then on to mother's allowance, the rent jumps from the \$38 a month to the full \$85 or \$90, in some instances with no change in income, because the income from unemployment is the same as the income from the family benefits programme and the general welfare assistance.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, you see what those people do not realize, and it is hard to explain, is that if the rent stated \$38 that is what they would get in their allowance; the \$38, not the \$85.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, but they in fact wind up worse off because of this anomaly in these particular cases.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, in some cases.

Mr. Peacock: Because the rent is taking a much greater portion after the transfer to family benefits than it was out of the unemployment.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is why we are trying to—

Mr. Peacock: Is it correct that when a client phones the office the case worker has a set day to be in the office, in the regional offices, one day a week? This is one of the difficulties, I think, that perhaps some families face. And as a result of that frustration they may give up trying to make contact with the case worker when they face that kind of situation that I first described this morning. If they do not catch the case worker at a particular time when he or she is in the regional office, or the case work office, that is it for another week.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Do they not leave a message, though? I guess it is pretty difficult. The case worker has to be out doing the visiting and you and I know that we have constituents who phone the same way. It would be much easier if everyone phoned and just left a number, but some of them, you know, your wife will tell you they phoned 10 times in the last week and they always phone when you are out and they never leave their number. Whereas if someone would phone and leave a number somebody could get back to them perhaps much sooner.

Mr. Peacock: All the more reason for moving the Windsor regional office out of the Canada building and down to the storefront operation.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gisborn?

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Just one point, could I ask the minister? This is a disability pension case, quite similar to what has just been discussed. I wrote the minister on May 13—the family benefits number is 60506(d)—and I am wondering if the minister could tell us how long it takes to look into one of these things? This is the 28th and I still have not heard from the minister. I am just wondering if the minister can assure us if these things are being looked into?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I can assure you that any of these that come in are looked into as quickly as we possibly can. It cannot always be done overnight. Miss Crittenden looks after that.

Mr. Braithwaite: The file number is 60506(d).

Miss D. Crittenden (Assistant Deputy Minister): I do it in two days, 24 hours if possible.

Mr. Braithwaite: But do I understand from the discussion which the minister has just had, Mr. Chairman, that when these types of cases are brought to attention the worker is sent out again to re-evaluate the whole situation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, yes, if that is what the problem is. If that is the answer to a problem that is what we would try to do in that case, I guess; try to write you back, or maybe we do not. I do not know. Would you write back or would the thing go into the works and the worker go out and you would get a letter after that?

Miss Crittenden: You would get another visit.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You get another visit.

Mr. Braithwaite: There is another visit? This is what I wanted to make certain of, if there is a following up. Because there is a deduction being made from the pension because of hydro being an extra. Just something of the sort we were talking about here. If it turns out it should not have been taken off, Mr. Chairman, would there be a rebate?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. You see, that is the very kind of procedure I was talking about last night. This will result in a visit and an informal review of that particular decision, and then, of course, if the answer still is no, it should have been taken off, they do not have an allowance, they should have been reduced for that, they can then appeal that

to the board of review and have that reviewed.

Mr. Braithwaite: What happened in this case is they moved from OHC in Toronto to Metro in Rexdale. In the first, the rent included the hydro and in this other place it does not. I will not go into all the facts, but anyway they have to pay something back. This is what I want to be certain you will look into.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We try to handle all these as quickly as possible, as I think most of the members know, for we accept the members are one of the focal points for these inquiries in their areas, the same as our regional offices are. I think if the member is doing his job in his riding he is going to get these requests and people are normally going to turn to him for assistance in this area, and we have the whole setup here to handle the members' letters that are forwarded by them to us as quickly as possible.

Mr. Braithwaite: While I am on the point of the case worker, could the minister, or one of his assistants, let me know how many workers are assigned to the north Rexdale area, this is the north Etobicoke area? Could you find out?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, we will get that and get it back to you.

Mr. Braithwaite: I would like to know if there are any plans for increasing or decreasing, as the case may be, the service in that area.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Gisborn.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Hamilton East): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Because we do not have an up-to-date report to relate some of the questions that may be on our minds, I would like to have more detail on the minister's announcement yesterday regarding the increased benefits for senior citizens. Yesterday, it was hard to follow the dialogue and the questioning but there were figures of \$648,000 used, and in another instance a figure of \$108,000 used. What this appears to be is no increases, actually, in cost, but retraining the same allowances that they were receiving prior to the federal supplement increase. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, if put in those terms, it is. Let us use an example: the husband on old age security, guaranteed income supplement, getting the maximum, \$135. He has had an increase in that, of—what is it?

Mr. Gisborn: Twenty-three dollars or something.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, he has had an increase on April 1 when the federal government raised the supplement from \$113 and changed to \$135.

An hon. member: A \$32 increase.

Hon. Mr. Wells: His wife is not 65 years of age yet, and yet the family is in need. Generally these people are between 60 and 65. She has been on family benefits allowance. It is a need-tested programme. Guaranteed income supplement is income tested. They are different, you see, so the qualifications are different. Before we made the changes her allowance would have been decreased, as indeed they were and that was quite in keeping with the normal and with the regulations in effect at the time.

Now what we have done is change the regulations by adding a geriatric allowance, if you will, to the figuring of the family benefit allowance for senior citizens, older people, and this allows these people now to go back to the same amount they had. You see, it is a matter of semantics whether you say they are actually at the same amount of money, but under the existing legislation they would not have been.

Mr. Gisborn: That is correct. We increased the allowance to fit in with the increase so—

Hon. Mr. Wells: So that the family has had a total increase in income. The old folks, the couple, have had a total increase because the federal guaranteed income supplement was increased.

Mr. Gisborn: So in that sense it is not costing your department any more money?

Hon. Mr. Wells: In figuring my estimates, we had to go by the legislation and regulations in effect at the time. And at the time we knew this was coming and we had figured on—our estimates had been decreased by the amount that would have been cut off those allowance because we did not make this change until yesterday.

Mr. Gisborn: Oh, and that fact gives you a right to call it an increase?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, yes. But then there are—

Mr. Gisborn: But really the increase is coming from the federal government. There is no increase by this government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is. There is. It is going to cost \$648,000 more than we have in our budget for this year to put this into effect. Half of that will come from the federal government and the other half from us.

Mr. Gisborn: It is only based on the fact that your estimates could have been decreased if you had stuck with the same—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, that is right. But in cold, hard accounting sense, it is going to be an increase in our budget of about \$324,000. Then there is the other part of the thing, that—

Mr. Gisborn: What was the figure you gave?

Hon. Mr. Wells: A total of \$324,000 is added.

The other part of it, of course, is that in making that change, which we felt was a proper change to make for those couples, we also felt that if we were going to help that group in order to keep them—and you cannot say absolutely comparable, because it is impossible to have all these allowances comparable when the federal one is on an income-tested basis and ours is on a needs-tested basis—there is a group of 2,000-odd people in this province who do not qualify for the federal programme and probably one of the biggest reasons is that they have not been here for 10 years and yet they have to be assisted.

Mr. Gisborn: How many was that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: About 2,000, I think. For these people we have added this allowance into their cost too, so they are getting a \$30 raise in their allowance, which brings them to some comparable level with the people who are on all the federal programmes. It keeps all our senior citizens on programmes at least fairly comparable.

Mr. Gisborn: What is the minister—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That was not budgeted, and that is costing \$360,000 net to Ontario.

Mr. Gisborn: How many were involved in the old age supplement branch?

Hon. Mr. Wells: About 2,700

Mr. Gisborn: About 2,700.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is an attempt to recognize that in our society today and with the

spiralling inflation one of the hardest hit groups is our senior citizens. The federal government recognized this quickly by changing its programme rather unilaterally, which I guess is why we did not really have time to consider what we should do to mesh ours together. As you will recall, this was in the total white paper that was presented as part of a lot of programmes, a lot of which have not been done and which we are still discussing. But they moved right ahead themselves and changed their old age security programme, so that is fine and—

Mr. Gisborn: Do these figures of increased cost, exclude the 50 per cent federal share?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Which figures do you mean?

Mr. Gisborn: Your total increase.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The total increase, including the federal share, is about \$1.3 million, and of that \$1.3 million, \$684,000 is our share because there is no federal sharing on the \$30 increase.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt that it is a good move; it is one that was expected and could hardly have been avoided. There are some points that bother me about it. We knew some time last fall that the federal government was going to change its supplemental formula to make the increase. Why did this government not move in more haste to tie it in on April 1 rather than wait until this point?

What bothers me is the amount of anxiety and frustration it caused these 2,700 recipients. If other members had the same kind of contacts that I received over this sort of thing, not all of them received notice that their allowances were going to be decreased but the message got around very quickly. I was deluged with calls and people were just distraught with it.

I had one case involving a couple where one spouse was receiving the old age pension, plus a supplement, and the wife was receiving her allowance from social and family benefits. They were in a private apartment. They could not keep up with the \$165 rent, so they applied for and received a senior citizens' apartment which immediately reduced their rent by some \$65 or \$70. Immediately on that move, their supplement was reduced, and the social and family benefit supplement was reduced. When they finally received this notice, they found that they

were one dollar ahead from the point that they started from in actual disposal income.

Why did you let this go so long? Why was it not given cognizance when the federal government announced its increases and why were you not prepared to make your statement back in January so that we would make sure that this reduction would not take place?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, I cannot really tell the member that. As I said, I only became minister about a month before this took place and there were a lot of problem areas to pull together. I just do not know why. I certainly knew the problems are exactly as you have expressed them and we acted as quickly as we could in effecting the change. It has been done. We always try to be one step ahead on these things but you cannot win on them all.

You will recall that we had the comfort allowance adjusted on April 1 at the same time that this came in. This was another problem that arose because of the change in the increase in the guaranteed income supplement. We try to be ahead on them all and you cannot win on them all, but certainly I do not think that we—

Mr. Gisborn: What discussions did the minister have with the Minister of Health (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) in relationship to this change in the formula as to how it would affect those who would receive the OHSIP subsidy? Was there any discussion at all with that department?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are talking about the 2,000 who are over 65, are you?

Mr. Gisborn: Yes, the couples.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The persons who are on our family benefits would be getting the medical insurance automatically under that provision.

Mr. Gisborn: Well, this change may put some of them \$60 over the 1,000 taxable income which then reduces their entitlement to a 50 per cent subsidy for OHSIP. I know it is not your department, but the question was asked—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I did not have any discussion with them. As a matter of fact, it did not occur to me that this might happen in these cases.

Mr. Gisborn: —because it could mean a \$66 reduction in that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would hope not. We will have to take a look at that. I would hope not. This would not be the FBA cases. All our family benefit cases, if they are on our allowances, are getting their medical insurance. These would be the old age security cases. It would not even affect all those over 65 who are getting the increase in our allowance—the 2,000 I talked about—because they are family benefit recipients and they get their medical coverage as part of their benefit. So it will not affect them. The only ones it might affect would be these families. I would have to study it a little more to see if there are some cases where it would affect them.

Mr. R. D. Rowe (Northumberland): The only people it would affect are those on straight old age pensions who, as the new levels go up, will be in the taxable income bracket.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And we are not doing anything with those. Everybody that we are adjusting is on a family benefit programme here. That is all we are adjusting. So I guess probably there is nothing here that would be our concern.

Mr. Braithwaite: On that point, Mr. Chairman—the \$108,000 we were talking about last night—you mentioned this would be your estimate of the amount that would have to be repaid for the deductions made for the month of April, 1971. From what you are saying here then, it is only going to be \$54,000 that is coming out of the provincial money. Another \$54,000 would come from the federal government as well, would it not?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, we took a sixth of—

Mr. Braithwaite: I think you gave me a figure of \$108,000.

Hon. Mr. Wells: A sixth of \$648,000—that is right.

Mr. Braithwaite: But it is only going to be \$54,000, not really \$108,000.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Downer.

Mr. A. W. Downer (Dufferin-Simcoe): Mr. Chairman, I am not going to throw any bricks. I would like to throw a bouquet to the minister. With the statement yesterday, I think he acted on this particular thing with dispatch, far quicker than most of the departments in government.

Mr. Gisborn: Manitoba put it in in April. They got it all figured out and there was no anxiety—no concern with the recipients. It was ready to go into effect the same time as the settlement.

Mr. Downer: I would like to congratulate the minister on his—

Mr. Peacock: You are speaking of the welfare benefits.

Mr. Downer: I am speaking of the statement yesterday. I am very much in favour of that statement, and I congratulate him; he acted with dispatch, far sooner than any other department that I know of in this government, or any other government.

As far as that goes, there are two or three things that I would like to ask. This time it is mothers' allowances. We have a number of cases of women receiving mothers' allowances. I will give you one case.

There was a lady with one child receiving \$135 a month. Just as soon as the widow's pension from The Canada Pension Act was granted to her, the department immediately cut her mother's allowance by the amount of the widow's allowance from the Canada Pension section. In other words, she received \$93 a month from the Canada Pension and they reduced her mother's allowance by that amount. She was getting \$135 for herself and one child.

How can you justify an old age pensioner getting \$135, with the spouse getting family benefits and here we have a woman with one child just limited to the \$135? Is there not some way you are going to give them some assistance too? There is not only one case, there are many cases like this,

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think this is a real problem. The way the regulations are set up now and the way the plan works is that any of these increases in other areas—like Canada Pension Plan, unemployment insurance, or an industrial pension—to a person such as you mention who is on mother's allowance, these are counted as income and they do decrease her allowance.

But it draws us right back to what I was talking about yesterday. We really have got to get at some kind of integration and co-ordination of all our assistance programmes, which is lacking now. I fully recognize this, that workmen's compensation, unemployment insurance, Canada Pension Plan, and our own income assistance programmes, all oper-

ate independent of each other and sometimes they work against each other.

Mr. Downer: I can see that point. Just the same, it is strange that a mother with a child would be limited to \$135 and an individual old age pensioner would get \$135—just one.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You have hit on it. I recognize the weakness in our system, is the case of the mother with one child.

For instance, our programme is geared to paying the same amount for each additional child. If you have nine children and you add all the allowances together you are probably getting a more equitable allowance than the mother with one child.

I frankly think there has to be some change in this area now. I am not at this point prepared to say how we are going to do it, or when we can do it. But it is one of the weak spots in the programme.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Chairman, does the minister have a task force that is working on this question of bringing all these things together? Do you have a group of people in your department doing this?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Our research and planning group are working on this. For instance, part of our on-going discussions with the federal government, and with others—

Mr. Braithwaite: You have a specific group of people doing it—this is what I wanted to know—that are assigned?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not assigned as a task force to do this specific thing. It is part of all the discussions that are going on.

We are carrying on discussions with Workmen's Compensation. In our negotiations with Ottawa at the present time—our talks toward the federal-provincial meeting—we are talking about Canada Pension Plan, family allowances, and Canada Assistance Plan all together.

Mr. Braithwaite: Can we really expect some changes then in situations such as those brought up by the member for Dufferin-Simcoe, or really do you expect this to happen in the fullness of time?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would say this, that hopefully we can direct our attention toward the specific problem as an immediate concern of the mother with one child and we may be able to work something out there.

I do not know. That is specific and immediate. It will take longer to work out the integration problem. You are getting into the whole delivery of support services.

Mr. Braithwaite: This is why I was asking if you had a task force, because I think there are many more cases than those that have been brought to your attention.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There are all kinds of inducements. Everything that we talked about gets somehow involved in this. We are getting those figures for the member for Hamilton East about those who are on workmen's compensation, and on pensions. They all get into this intermeshing of various programmes. And the programmes do not intermesh sometimes, and they act against one another.

Mr. Gisborn: Can I just—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Downer.

Mr. Gisborn: Just a minute, I had interjections when I had the floor and we are on the same point. I am not going digress from the point that the member for Dufferin-Simcoe was on. I would like clarification.

Mr. Chairman: I thought you were finished, Mr. Gisborn.

Mr. Gisborn: You told us there were 2,000 that would get the \$30. Is that—

Mr. Chairman: Can we have order, please? You had finished, Mr. Gisborn, and the floor was given to Mr. Downer.

Mr. Braithwaite: The hon. member is a gentleman. He is going to let Mr. Gisborn finish his question.

Mr. Downer: I would like to continue because I want to leave before too long. Mr. Gisborn will be interested in this particular point that I am bringing up anyway.

Mr. Gisborn: I agree with you. You should have hit it a little harder though.

Mr. Downer: We have two or three families in my own area, right at the moment, where the husband is on strike and the strike pay is \$10 per week. One of these families happens to have four children. The man worked in Owen Sound and he lives in the town of Stayner, which is 50 miles away. He has to go to Owen Sound to collect his strike pay of \$10 a week, but he cannot afford to go up to Owen Sound to draw the strike pay at \$10 a week.

They asked for general welfare and they were turned down. How can they live? They have been on strike now for 2½ months at an income of \$10 a week, even if he could get to it to draw it. What are the guidelines in general welfare?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, we went all through this last night.

Mr. Downer: I was not here last night.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The guidelines are that there is no general welfare assistance for those on strike or engaged in labour disputes. There is a provision for a two-week emergency assistance available from the municipality that we will share on. After that there is no sharing from us. If the municipality wanted to give assistance on its own I guess it could do that.

Mr. Downer: Our municipality will not grant any. They say they are not permitted to do it because they cannot interfere with labour problems or labour difficulties.

How about the children? How about this family? How about these families that are affected?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): If he leaves home then they have to support them.

Mr. Downer: I suppose that is right, but I would not like to recommend that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is a bigger problem than that, and at this point in time it is just not the policy to include—and it is not done in any province of Canada—those who are on strike.

Mr. Downer: What about the guidelines of general welfare? I had a letter this morning from a man who receives general welfare of \$12 a week and that is for his board and room and everything else. How in the world can he exist? It is impossible to get board and room for \$12 a week in the community!

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is his shelter allowance.

Mr. Downer: That is the shelter allowance and everything—\$12 a week is his allowance.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean the total allowance?

Mr. Downer: Total allowance! I will send the letter over to you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, it is a specific case and we have to look into it.

Mr. Downer: I have another one. This man asked for general welfare in January. He received \$25 and he has not received anything since. Last fall he was working and put a lot of food away in his freezer. However, he could not pay his hydro bills so they turned it off and the food all spoiled. Surely there must be some guidelines, something that we can pass on to these county welfare officers to see that these people are getting their proper allowance?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, common sense—and I am sure most of them use common sense—will—

Mr. Braithwaite: Change the welfare officer!

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are not in the same county as the member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Sargent) are you?

Mr. Downer: No, I am in the county of Simcoe or the county of Dufferin; either one.

Mr. Braithwaite: He is my member.

Mr. Downer: Well, I am very glad you appreciate my bringing a few of these points up.

Mr. Braithwaite: But you are not doing a good enough job.

Mr. Downer: You want me to do a little better?

Mr. Braithwaite: You should be selling Liberalism.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Listen, I agree they should use common sense, and a case like that sounds very stupid. I hate to comment on specific cases without seeing the whole story because there may be some other side to the story.

Mr. Downer: I will send over the letters.

Then there are the overpayments. This is a constant source of embarrassment to people who receive overpayment on their family allowances or whatever they want to call it. They continue to get letters, and of course they have no money to repay. The new allowance is cut off completely but they are still harassed, and I do not think it is fair. You cannot get blood out of a stone. Just write it off and be done with it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well that would be the very simple way, but, we have not got the

right to write it off. The only way it could be written off, I would imagine, would be through quite a procedure here, probably by order-in-council you know, after the auditor had gone through it and everything.

When you are operating with government money under programmes you just cannot automatically write it off if money has been paid out and there was no justification for it. I realize it is very difficult to handle, and someone says it is \$20 here and it is \$15.85 here. As I said last night, the last time I asked about one of these items, you know, I said there is just a small group of items, it would not cost very much. But, you know, it is about half a million dollars, something like that. You add them all up and it probably would come to that in a year—or a million dollars.

Mr. Downer: I wonder how much it costs for the stenographers and the paper and the stamps to keep harassing these people about these overpayments?

Mr. Braithwaite: Not much; these are form letters. We discussed this last night. It is all form letters.

Mr. Ferrier: How is it that in municipal welfare the department will often write it off? They do not seem to tally up these overpayments the same way. They write them off, usually.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Maybe Dr. Williams could elaborate. Your municipal people, are they able to write it off?

Dr. C. J. Williams (Municipal Welfare Administration): Mr. Chairman, the municipalities are able to write these off at their own expense. If they write them off, they do not get the subsidy on them.

Mr. Gisborn: This particular question was raised some years ago in the House on a particular case. The answer we got was that the provincial government was required to recover this money by the federal government because the federal government was paying 50 per cent. I have never heard that reason given since. What kind of accounting does the federal government keep in regard to their responsibilities for their share of the amount spent by the provincial government in this field?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I could not tell you. Under the old residual programmes it was mandatory under the programme to recover

the overpayments. In fact the section in the old Acts read:

A provincial authority shall recover from a recipient any sum improperly paid by way of allowance whether such sum was paid as a result of non-disclosure of facts, misrepresentation, or any other cause.

That was in the old residual programmes under which we still have the blind and the disabled operating now but with a very small number of beneficiaries on the programme.

Under The Family Benefits Act, regulation 12(3), the director may recover overpayments. The federal government does not have that same rigid provision saying we shall recover them in the new legislation. But you are right, they did in the old one so that a few years ago, before The Family Benefits Act came in, you would have been told that.

Mr. Gisborn: How does your department receive its 50 per cent share from the federal government for its expenditure for social and family benefits?

Mr. M. Borczak (Deputy Minister): Mr. Chairman, a monthly claim is made on all of these expenditures under the various agreements we have with the federal government. Following the receipt of the claims, we get a refund from Ottawa. It is done on the basis of the actual expenditure for a particular month, with any adjustments, any credits, that may accrue in Ottawa's favour taken into account on that claim. It is an on-going process.

There is subsequently a review of the expenditures by the federal authority, by staff of the National Health and Welfare Department who do, in effect, an audit of the expenditures in various fields. We are also subject from time to time to an audit by the Auditor-General of Canada.

Mr. Gisborn: In a sense they come in and take a look, a spot check, of your claims and this sort of thing?

Mr. Borczak: That is right, and the actual determinations on individual cases and so on too.

Mr. Gisborn: Now, I get back to my—

Mr. Downer: Mr. Chairman, it is easy to criticize. I would like to commend the present minister on his approach and say that I have received the utmost consideration from him and from the staff of his department; and also to say that in my opinion

he has opened the windows of The Department of Social and Family Services and let the air go through.

Mr. Braithwaite: Were they closed before then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: He did not say that.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier, did you have a question?

Mr. Ferrier: I have two items I would like to deal with, Mr. Chairman.

The first one is the whole question of the eligibility for disability pensions. I wrote to the minister about six or eight months ago about the basis for disability pensions and he quoted a section of the Act that says:

A person who has a major physical or mental impairment that is likely to continue for a prolonged period of time, who, as a result thereof, is severely limited in activities pertaining to normal living, as verified by objective medical findings accepted by the medical advisory board.

Then it goes on to say that there is a difference between disability in those terms and disability or unemployability.

Now there are people I have had in my office and I do not think anybody in the world would employ them. Some of them are hypochondriacs and have greatly deteriorated but they cannot get a certificate from a doctor to say that they are medically disabled from his point of view.

The fact is they will never be hired by anybody and so they are left with the local welfare officers to dole out the welfare. In order to qualify for general welfare assistance they have to go to the Manpower office and go through all the sham of trying to say that they are looking for work. To me it is an almost nonsensical thing to do.

I think almost every member here would have told the person, "At least, you have got to go through this formality to make sure that you get your assistance." The people will go through it and they will be harassed continuously by their welfare worker and the pressure will be put on and so on.

There was at one point I think, within the department, an effort made to take these long-term welfare recipients on and to grant them some kind of a provincial pension—people who are on general welfare assistance for years sometimes. General welfare assistance, I understand, is supposed to be a short-term emergency kind of assistance. Yet

this type of person will, as far as I am concerned, be on general welfare assistance until they reach the age of retirement—or they die as my colleague from Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) says.

I think that really you have got to change your regulations or your legislation here and be a little more flexible and a little more realistic. No matter how much pressure you put on these people I do not think that there are very many of them who will ever find their way back into the labour market. Rather than harass them and make their miserable life that much more miserable, I think a provincial pension should be granted to more of them.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are in a way starting to mix things up a bit again, as opposed to what your colleague was talking about last night—that is of separating the two programmes, are you not? Once you start bringing them in with what we now call disabled, most of the people in the disabled programme are not what you would call potential members of the labour force.

The question is how many of these you would bring in under this programme. They would sort of feel they were in a programme and it was impossible to be rehabilitated.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): How do you differentiate between permanently disabled and permanently unemployable? That is a pretty fine line.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is pretty difficult to determine that.

Mr. Martel: It is difficult for your own people to administer it.

Everyone has got cases like this. The doctor says he will never work again, or this man will never work again. You get that fine distinction that really no one can distinguish particularly in our type of area, where the type of work that we have is heavy duty. But even in cases of women with degenerative back diseases, disc diseases, we get the terminology that they are permanently unemployable.

Rigor mortis has got to set in to get a disability pension, really!

Mr. Rowe: In connection with that also, if you have a family then of course it is fairly easy. If you do not it is almost impossible; but the man has to eat whether he has a family or whether he does not have a family.

I think the definition for disability should be eased considerably.

Mr. Martel: Broadened!

Mr. B. Newman: Broadened, I agree.

Mr. Rowe: There are a great number of unfair situations.

Mr. Martel: I hope you will take a look at it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will take a look at it. It is an area that I have not had a chance really to get into yet. I was just looking at a case the other day, where someone was not quite completely blind but yet as far as employability was concerned, he was classed as blind; still he is not blind enough to qualify for disabled pension. That is the kind of thing that just falls right between rungs!

Mr. Ferrier: If you bring in legislation or change the regulations, I think all sides of the House will very readily stand behind you.

The other problem I would like to deal with is the question of the rehabilitation services. From what I have seen of this department in my own section of the province I am very impressed. I think you have had good workers and you have been able to carry out a very constructive approach to a difficult section in the population. In the work that you have done, I think that a number of people have got back into the labour market or are functioning that much more successfully in their particular communities and in the province. I think it is money well spent.

At the present time, my understanding is that there is only one rehabilitation officer in the northeast of Ontario. I would suspect that maybe the same kind of personnel restrictions exist in other parts of the province. It is just unrealistic to think that with a heavy caseload like this, you can really do the job of rehabilitating the handicapped and those with special problems and making them much more useful citizens of the province again. I would like to ask if you are budgeting that much more in this field this year than you have last year to enable you to employ more people in this very useful aspect of your programme. I am parochial to this extent that I would like to see another one at least in the northeast, so that our area could be serviced. But more than that I think that all areas of the province should benefit from a good programme.

I have read the annual report of a couple of years ago and the number of people that you had rehabilitated and had helped was significantly impressive, but I just feel that a lot more could be done. I would like to see you put a lot more priority on it and help people in the province who really need some extended intensive counselling and direction to get the help that you are capable of providing and should be providing on a wider basis.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We, unfortunately, were able to get an increased complement for this section of only six this year. That just does not do the job.

Mr. Martel: Three went to northern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know. But we do need more staff.

Mr. B. Newman: How about an incentive similar to that of The Department of Health to encourage more of this calibre to go to college?

Mr. Martel: It is not that. They cannot get a job when they come out of the community colleges.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, it is not a case of not being able to find people to go in. Under the constraints that we have with the Civil Service Commission that is our complement increase for this year in this programme. This is all part of the total government programme to keep within the financial constraints that we have. We are trying to operate as best we can within these. This is an excellent programme—

Mr. Ferrier: In the long run, you are going to save the taxpayers in this province money by expanding this programme.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Ferrier: I suppose these estimates were set up before you were in the department long enough to have a chance to get more.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, yes, nine months ago. The estimates were set nine months ago.

Mr. Ferrier: But I hope you will fight like the dickens to improve this situation and get more rehab people, because I think it is money exceptionally well spent. I will support you, I can assure you. Again you will get wide-spread support throughout.

Mr. Martel: I would like to say you have too few counsellors to counsel people. We have had in the Sudbury area to go to people I know at the Laurentian University, or Cambrian College, and so forth. We have got them counselling people free and it is paying dividends for people who would have been out on the street because they could not budget properly. These counsellors, like Bert Zeigler from Cambrian College are doing it at night and saving the province money. There is not one counsellor in the entire Sudbury area.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Could I just say that in the rehabilitative services programme, I went up last week and toured the Jewish vocational centre here in Toronto. It is a fantastic programme that they have. It is a part of this rehabilitation service and this is part of a total programme. I recognize that we have put a lot of money in other components of the total programme and this one has got to be beefed up with staff, because in health we are spending a lot of money building regional rehabilitation centres from the health aspect. A lot of times these people have to move out into this service that we provide which is the next part of the total process, and the same with Workmen's Compensation. Others do certain things and then our rehabilitation service comes into play; there has been a bottleneck and we have got to get it opened with some more staff. Having said that, with what they have now they are doing a fantastic job, as are all the staff in our department. They are doing a fantastic job on this programme I think. I think it is an excellent programme.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): You will need more money.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Everybody needs more money.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I wanted to bring up to the minister the problem of the cerebral palsied. Back on September 16, 1970, the Cerebral Palsy Association of Windsor and Essex County presented a brief to the then Minister of Social and Family Services. He replied to them on October 5. They in turn sent to you, Mr. Minister, a letter on April 27—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Is this about a residence?

Mr. B. Newman: No. no. That will come.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is in the next vote. We have not got any of the staff here on that one.

Mr. B. Newman: Their letter deals directly with the needs of the cerebral palsied and the disabled. In their letter and brief of September 17, not getting a satisfactory reply from the minister on October 5, 1970, and likewise not receiving a reply up to now—maybe the minister has replied recently, but they wrote to you on April 27—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Which group is this?

Mr. B. Newman: The Cerebral Palsy Association of Windsor and Essex County.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I met with them. I met personally with them.

Mr. B. Newman: All right then. Maybe the minister can put in the record his actions on their recommendations.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, as I recall, the main thing they talked to me about was a residence they wanted to build in Windsor.

Mr. B. Newman: No, this deal has nothing to do with the facility at all. They do want the facility, and I hope that you, in your wisdom Mr. Minister, see eye to eye with them and assist them in every way possible. However, their brief makes mention—and I will only read portions of it; this is as of September 16—firstly:

Handicapped individuals receiving disability allowance get a maximum of \$120 per month—if paying board and lodging—or a maximum of \$145 per month—if living in their own home; and are allowed to earn no more than \$24 monthly before the same amount is deducted from their disability allowance. It is impossible for these people to live on this amount, except with relatives or in substandard housing.

Further, the disability allowance does not provide adequate funds for transportation, nor sufficient money for glasses, dental work, or medication—much less for clothing and/or recreation. (While drugs can be purchased with assistance from municipal welfare, this is discretionary instead of automatic.)

Secondly, they mention:

The present policies discourage independence. If a handicapped person lives in an institution or hospital, that institution

receives, sometimes, as much as \$285 monthly for the person's care. But a handicapped individual trying to be independent receives at the very most \$145 monthly. Obviously, present policies encourage the handicapped to live in institutions, hospitals, etc., and cost the taxpayers more. Also, if the handicapped person finds employment, he is taken off the disability allowance and has great difficulty getting the allowance again, should he be unable to hold his job. This again encourages the handicapped to vegetate, rather than try to become part of the working force.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That statement has been made to me at least three or four times in the last month, and I just do not think that it is right.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, I would like to complete it and you can reply. What you may say may be—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but that statement that they do not go off because they find it would be very difficult to get back on—

Mr. B. Newman: If it is not true, I would like you to really get the facts on that, because—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think it may be a fear that they have, but it is not true. If they find they cannot work and then they have to come off work and they are again disabled under the present definition of the disabled person, I see no reason why they should not go back on disability allowance.

Mr. B. Newman: Any who have ever approached me, Mr. Minister—and I have approached your department; I have never had problems with them at all.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well this is it. I just interrupt you because four or five times in the last month different groups have told me that disabled people will not go off the allowance because they are afraid they will never be able to get back on again. I just do not think that is right.

Mr. B. Newman: It is nice to hear the minister make those comments.

Hon. Mr. Wells: If it was right, it certainly should not be, because there should be no impediment to a person trying to work; if they cannot do so, fine.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, the brief makes three recommendations and I would

like the minister's reply to each of the three, if he can.

The first is that instead of maximum monthly earnings of \$24, or \$288 annually, a handicapped person should be allowed to earn at least tax-exempt income, which is \$1,100 annually, before anything is deducted from the disability allowance.

May I have your comments on that, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The only comment I can really make to you at this point is that I have no plans to change that at the present time—

Mr. B. Newman: There are no plans for increasing their allowance?

Hon. Mr. Wells: —to change or increase their allowance. It has been presented to me and unfortunately, because the family benefits programme is a total programme, I think it has to be looked at in the light of the allowance for all the recipients. I have no plans at the moment to change that.

Mr. B. Newman: The second point they make is that the handicapped person should be allowed to work for a trial period of one year and his earnings exceed the figures outlined in the first point—that would be \$1,100, I would assume—before the disability allowance is reduced or suspended. However, at any time during the trial period he should, at his own request and on the termination of his employment, be able to reinstate his disability allowance without re-processing his application.

Maybe you answered that portion of their request earlier, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know whether the way back on is as easy as that. What they are suggesting is a sort of indication that they are going to work and a sort of suspension of allowance; and if they find they cannot, they just say "I cannot," and they go back on assistance.

Mr. B. Newman: I would assume this is what they would refer to: trying to work and finding out that they just cannot fit into the job and, as a result—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I understand that they now practically do that. They do not have to make a re-application; they just inform the worker that they have ceased to work and they go back on.

Mr. B. Newman: All right, that is very good. The last suggestion, Mr. Chairman, is that the disability allowance should be increased to a realistic figure and inequities and inadequacies done away with to encourage more independence and less institutionalizing, resulting in less money necessary for the disability allowance.

This was signed by George C. Dalton, president of the Cerebral Palsy Association of Windsor and Essex County. You have this, Mr. Minister, in a communication from them dated April 27, 1971. I would assume that you may have answered them—I do not know—but I am pleased to hear you mention that there would not be any problems or, to the best of your knowledge, there is no problem getting back on once they have started to work and find that they no longer are able to work.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I understand, of course, a brief was presented and, as with all these briefs, it will be answered in due course. If I were submitting them, I would do the same: keep submitting them until you get a "yes" answer to all questions.

I cannot give you an answer on the last one. You can make a good case, I suppose, for increasing allowances—but at the present time there is no policy to change the allowance.

Mr. B. Newman: Their last item there is of importance, Mr. Minister, because after all you know it is going to cost you substantially more to keep these people institutionalized than it would be to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I agree. As we discussed last night, when the member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) mentioned that if someone could find an accommodation on the ground floor they could stay working, there are a lot of other things other than the allowance that can be done with disabled people, I think, to help them either get a job or keep working so they do not have to be institutionalized or they do not even have to go on our allowance.

We had a very interesting brief presented by a couple of fellows who came in to see me two weeks ago and also Wally Knowles, whom I mentioned last night, suggesting a lot of other things that might be done. And I would like to look at those too.

Mr. B. Newman: There is one other item that I would like to bring to the minister's attention, and that is the travel allowance. I had an occasion where recipients of the

various benefit programmes are physically unable to visit a doctor, and as a result find themselves going for medical attention two and three times a week and the only way they can go is by taxicab. It costs one individual that I know of \$2.40 three times a week to get treatment from a doctor. That is \$7.20 a week. Over the course of a month that is more than the \$20 that would be allowed by the municipality. Should there not be some type of consideration shown or given to an individual who has that type of a health and walking problem?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well they could get that from the municipality.

Mr. B. Newman: Only up to \$20.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, they could get a above that as special assistance. But the anomaly is that it is discretionary, and because our sharing is different on the programme this perhaps put an impediment on the municipality using special assistance and it fell back on supplementary. This is all part of the tangled web in the delivery of the service that makes it very difficult to—

Mr. B. Newman: Well you see, Mr. Minister, you make mention for the individual to see the local welfare office. That is going to be \$2.40 for him to go down there by cab, or approximately that, and then after he does go he does not know if he is going to be successful, so he hesitates even to put in an appearance.

As a result he deprives himself of something to enable himself to take care of his medical needs or medical attention at the doctor's. This one patient has to have injections three times a week. Some consideration should be shown on hardship cases such as the one I mentioned here, with some kind of an increased allowance.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Is this a disabled person?

Mr. B. Newman: For all intents and purposes disabled, yes. A back problem.

Hon. Mr. Wells: But I mean it is not an old person?

Mr. B. Newman: No, he is not receiving any of the old age security pensions. No.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I just do not know that there are any answers I can give you at this time. It is something I suppose we will have to look at. It is part of the total problem, the total assistance, but there are always all these various things. At the present time I

would say the proper avenue is through special assistance, and—

Mr. B. Newman: Well you know, Mr. Minister, the Ontario Welfare Council makes that type of a recommendation too, that the provincial government extend through the recent order-in-council, through which disabled persons can obtain their regular transportation allowance on a needs test basis, to include older persons who have problems getting to medical and paramedical facilities.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, that is older persons. That is why I asked you.

Mr. B. Newman: You see they are also involved now, so the recommendation that I made concerning those who may not be on any of these federal programmes—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is the reason I say that we have just upped allowances for older people.

Mr. B. Newman: But you still do not accommodate those who are not older, and you are going to have to accommodate them in some fashion, if you do not increase their benefits to enable them to meet these added expenses.

Mr. Rowe: Find a doctor who will make house calls.

Mr. B. Newman: Where? Where do you find him?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I thought of that, but then you cannot expect a doctor to make house calls to give an injection three times a week. I think you can properly expect a doctor, I think, to treat a disabled person who cannot get to his office if he wants an examination or had a specific complaint. I would hope that we still get doctors who would make this kind of house call. And I suppose in that case the Victorian Order of Nurses, or some such group like that, could perhaps come into play.

If it were routine injection three times a week, perhaps municipalities could make arrangements for them to come and give that injection. It could probably be done by them, I guess.

Mr. B. Newman: You do have a suggestion there, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Maybe that could be arranged, if it is that kind of medical help. But I would just certainly hope that a disabled person who could not get to the doctor if he needed something in a hurry, or because of

a specific problem, could find someone to make a house call.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They would be further ahead—well no, they would not either—I was going to say get an ambulance because ambulance services cover that, but he would have to pay \$5.

Mr. B. Newman: He would not have to pay, would he?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Pardon?

Mr. B. Newman: Would a person on one of the family benefits have to pay?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know. Who pays the \$5? Special assistance, probably, and this probably would pick up under financial assistance.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I have three or four matters I want to raise. One I mentioned briefly as the necessity of counsellors in the area. I do not believe that in the Sudbury area we have one counsellor—there is no one. Whether the three jurisdictions—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Are you talking about family service counselling?

Mr. Martel: No. People from The Department of Social and Family Services—such things as people being assisted in drawing up budgets, you know, working out their budget and so on. There is just no one to turn to in the Sudbury area for this type of counselling that we know of.

As I say, I have been able to get a couple of cases worked on by a man from Cambrian College and he has helped these families tremendously. I just think that there are a lot of families in the area who could derive benefits from such a counsellor, and it would save the department a lot of funds.

In one case in particular, the family was going to be kicked out of an Ontario Housing unit, and with some guidance on how to allocate the budget in the last eight months they have been making a go of it at least. Otherwise, they would have been out in the street.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Would this be credit counselling?

Mr. Martel: I think it would be counselling that would cover a whole range of activities, Mr. Minister, in respect to your department. It is just one avenue, but there just is not one kind of counsellor. I under-

stand you have a number in Toronto, do you not? The minister's predecessor advised me of that last year.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have some counsellors in Toronto in our family services branch.

But you see there is provision. As in Sudbury the municipality could purchase service if there were family service agencies in the area. We are also now taking over the credit counselling function, which Financial and Commercial Affairs had. We have just got it.

Mr. Martel: But you have them directly in your own department here in Toronto. Why could there not be one right in the department in Sudbury?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess we just do not have enough staff—we do not have enough of them here.

Mr. Martel: Staff is a real problem.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have counsellors, but not family service counsellors.

Mr. Martel: The second point I wanted to raise—Dr. Williams and I have had some correspondence on this.

Mr. Chairman, in the case I am talking about there was a young woman whose husband had left her. She was on a pension from the government, a mother's pension, and the fridge and the stove broke down, completely beyond repair. There was no way she could get a new stove or a fridge—not even a second-hand stove or fridge. What does she do? These are necessities of life.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That would be special assistance.

Mr. Martel: No, no. I tried for months to get Mrs. Clarke some assistance and there was just no way that we could get assistance.

I wrote Dr. Williams. He tried; and I believe, he passed it on to someone else. We eventually got the parish priest to get them a second-hand stove and a second-hand fridge, but there was just nothing anywhere to assist this young woman and three little kiddies.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Under the regulations and legislation, special assistance could do this.

Mr. Martel: I tried everything.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We would share it. But it is up to the municipality to take the initiative on this.

Mr. Martel: What if the municipality does not? What does this woman, or any other woman do, in such a case, for a necessity of life such as a refrigerator or a stove? One element was left on the stove; the other three were shot and the oven was shot. Now what can you do?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot disagree with you, but philosophically we always say that the government closest to the people should be the one most responsive to their needs and so forth. You should expect that a municipal government which has responsibility in this area should be much more responsive and much better able to handle this kind of thing than, say—What is the alternative? We get into that completely and—

Mr. Gisborn: Do you pay 80 per cent if they do?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We pay 50 per cent of that one. That is probably the stumbling block really, if you get down to it.

Mr. Martel: You are saying that district welfare, then, should have picked up the other 50 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am saying that they could have under special assistance.

Mr. Martel: It is all a very nice philosophical dissertation, but when they refuse and the woman still does not have a refrigerator and a stove, what do you do then? All the philosophical ideas do not help her. She needs a stove and refrigerator and is turned down. What then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have initiated a procedure whereby she can get it. If the system does not work and the people who are supposed to work the system do not make it work, what are we going to do?

Mr. Martel: I suggest the minister talk to Dr. Williams—he knows the case—to Mr. McKnight, to both of whom I wrote over this Mrs. Nancy Clarke case. It was all well and good these measures being taken, but she still did not get it. I got the reply from both, "Sorry, but there is nothing we can do." Here we have a young woman with three kids.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You could exert a little pressure on that level that could do it.

Mr. Martel: You do not put pressure on the man in the district welfare. I am sorry, you just do not. He is overextended; his

budget is overextended. He has a couple of people on the board of directors, the directors appointed by the provincial government, breathing down his throat to hold the line, so he just does not give it. He is watching every cent. He has to. Both these gentlemen know this case. I do not know how many letters were written on it. What do you do? Go down there with a broadsword or an axe and hammer him on the head?

We would get rid of them. We might get someone in there with a little compassion. Even your man tried, Mr. Belanger, who is a first-rate fellow, I must say you just could not work with a better guy. He tried but there was no way. How much pressure do you have to put on when your representative right in Sudbury goes to the district welfare office and says this woman needs some assistance and he still turns it down? I just say that it is all well—

Hon. Mr. Wells: If there is a great enough feeling in that community for this, I would think that this kind of concern should be shown in the area for this kind of case.

Mr. Martel: I do not know how many letters I have written—I just do not know how many to both Mr. McKnight and Dr. Williams.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am sure that we in our very subtle way attempted to do whatever we could to influence them to try to do something—

Mr. Martel: Right, and your man could have told you to do it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —through the programmes that we had but—

Mr. Martel: In fact, he tried.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —we can only go to the extent of our legislative authority. The only other thing you could suggest is that we take the whole thing over and do it ourselves.

Mr. Martel: That would not be a bad idea.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not so sure that it would, though.

Mr. Martel: That would not be a bad idea.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We would get everybody—

Mr. Martel: You get some of these jokers who are in these various offices who do not work directly for the government, who take it on themselves to have a little empire, and to be God Almighty himself. We might get rid of a few of those types and it would be

a big help to those who are on welfare in this province.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am glad that you do not feel like that about any of our staff.

Mr. Martel: I worked with your staff in Sudbury under Mr. Belanger and he is a first-rate fellow to deal with. I cannot say the same for some of the others in the area.

Another problem is—this my colleague has brought up—what happens to a family with this extra benefit you were talking about yesterday where the wife is under the age of 16? I have a case now, a rather interesting case.

They were getting \$129, then they got a \$55 supplement from the federal government so it was cut back to \$109. The boy dropped out of school so it was cut back completely. They now owe \$258.36 to you people, which you are trying to reclaim. Their total income is \$135. Their rent alone is \$90. What do they live on and how do they pay back the \$258.36?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Would that likely come under the—

Mr. Martel: FBA—I have got the number—529231S.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Have we had a look at that one? I think we had better take a look at it rather than start commenting on it.

Mr. Martel: All right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Because it is very dangerous to comment without—

Mr. Martel: I have the files here. The other letter I wrote Mr. Borczak on April 5. I am still waiting for a reply. I do not think he was happy with my letter. I wrote you, Mr. Minister—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You never write letters that people are not happy with.

Mr. Martel: Once in a while.

I wrote you, Mr. Minister, about the situation in Sudbury where people are using \$50 and \$60 of their welfare allowance over and above that which is allowed just to cover the rent. I wrote your department. There are 4,000 people on the waiting list for a house in Sudbury. Rents are \$200, \$225.

I wrote your department and asked that you have this entire matter investigated, because people who were either on federal

government pensions or pensions through your department are being fleeced.

I gave two examples. One was a woman who was going to try to move into a small apartment—the rent is \$185—her total income at that time was \$111. They were just two examples. I got a letter back from Mr. Borczak, which she was not happy about, wherein he states, "Our understanding is that the majority of family benefit recipients are able to find accommodation within the amounts in their allowances available for shelter," and that is not true.

Mr. Borczak did not bother to go back to anyone in the Sudbury to find out if what I was saying was correct. That is what bothers me about the letter from Mr. Borczak. If you had at least gone to your own people and said, "Check it out to be certain that this is not happening." But that did not happen. They just investigated the two cases I presented.

I was not just interested in the two cases, Mr. Chairman. For example, a woman with five children who gets \$319 pays \$200 a month rent. There is case after case; you can ask your colleague, the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers). He gets the same type of problems I get from that area.

I am asking that the matter be investigated and if necessary some special allowance be set up so that their bloody rents are paid. When they have got to start taking \$50 and \$60 from the food and clothing allowance to pay the rent then they are just so deprived that it is not even funny. I do not like this kind of letter and I do not like the fact that it is not even investigated and that I get a carte blanche answer.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Wait a minute, you said, in fairness, you indicated two cases.

Mr. Martel: Two cases.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And those two cases were investigated.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And they were all right.

Mr. Martel: No, they were not all right. It was just a recommendation that these two would be investigated.

My letter did not say just two cases. My letter said to you:

Necessity forces me to write you about a very serious situation that has developed in the Sudbury area. The housing situation

has reached beyond the acute stage. There are 3,300 families—

and this was back in March:

—presently waiting for some type of housing unit. Consequently the landlords are having a field day, rents continue to skyrocket, those recipients of welfare or some provincial plan under your jurisdiction are simply being gouged to death.

And I went on and I cited two examples, and the instructions went out to look into these two examples.

That is not what I asked for. I asked that it be checked out.

How many of your recipients in the Sudbury area are using great portions of their food and clothing allowance just to cover the rent? I know dozens of cases where it is happening, and I do not like it when I get an answer that says, "Oh, it is all right, it is not bad. We agree there is a little bit of a problem"; when you get the type of reply that I got back, "Our understanding is that the majority of family benefit recipients are able to find accommodation within the amounts in their allowances available for shelter" this has not even been investigated, or even suggested that it be investigated. I just do not feel that Mr. Borczak in all fairness—he is here—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That statement is probably true that he made.

Mr. Martel: No, it is not true. It has not been checked out.

Mr. Chairman: It is now 1 o'clock. Are you finished, Mr. Martel?

Mr. Martel: This is the last point, I would like to finish.

Mr. Chairman: We will let you finish.

Mr. Martel: I just think something has to be done to check out what I am saying. Very simply, you could write your department in Sudbury, you could write the two other departments, the district welfare and the Sudbury welfare, and ask them to run a check on how many of their welfare recipients are paying far in excess of what is allowed under the present section, and at least give the people in the Sudbury area the authority to use that supplement of \$20 per person per month at least to cover their rents. Give them the discretionary power to do it through your local office in Sudbury so they will have some control.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That discretionary power they have—

Mr. Martel: It just cannot go on, it is intolerable.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They have that now.

Mr. Martel: Well they play around, Mr. Minister, and say they do not.

Mr. Peacock: If I can get your eye on Monday, I will raise the question about discretionary power.

Mr. Chairman: Yes. Now this meeting stands adjourned until 3:15 Monday. I am going to take the speakers in order as they have specified their intentions to speak: Mr. Peacock, Mr. Pilkey, Mr. Spence, Mr. Gisbom and Mrs. M. Renwick.

Mr. B. Newman: Put the member for Etobicoke down there.

Mr. Ferrier: Put me down there too, then.

The committee adjourned at 1:03 o'clock, p.m.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

**Estimates, Department of Social and
Family Services**

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

LIBRARY

Monday, May 31, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1971

The committee met at 3:15 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. J. R. Smith in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES (continued)

On vote 2002:

Mr. Chairman: The meeting will come to order. Unfortunately, the Chairman will not be here for another hour and in his possession is the list of speakers when we adjourned on Friday. The first two speakers are Mr. Peacock and Mr. Braithwaite, and perhaps by then Mr. Chairman will have returned and he will have the list with him. I made a subsequent list this afternoon, though. Mr. Peacock.

Mr. H. Peacock (Windsor West): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On adjournment on Friday, I asked the Chairman if he would recognize me if I were here this afternoon at 3.

I wanted to raise with the minister (Mr. Wells) the subject of the amendments to the regulations announced last week respecting The General Welfare Assistance Act. The minister read a statement on May 27 setting out the changes, and I want to speak this afternoon about those changes respecting the provision of discretion to local welfare administrators in processing applications of persons between the ages of 16 and 18.

The week before last, when the minister was asked questions in the House, I asked him by way of supplementary, if he had or was going to take into account the brief presented to the council of the city of Windsor by Mr. John F. Sheehan, a graduate student of the University of Windsor's school of social work, a brief which was in reply to a resolution of the city of Kingston, circulated to Windsor and other municipalities, asking for their endorsement. As a result of the presentation of Mr. Sheehan's brief to council, members of council voted not to endorse the city of Kingston's resolution.

I would first like to ask the minister this question: Other than Metropolitan Toronto,

which major municipalities in the province did he hear, respecting the return—as it has been put by the press—"the return to discretion" to the local welfare administrators in processing applications from young people?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Social and Family Services): We heard from Kingston, we heard from Halton County, we heard from—I do not have my file on it and I cannot list them all off from memory, but we heard from a fair number. We must have a list so high, of letters from citizens.

Mr. Peacock: What did the citizens complain of, assuming they complained?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The citizens of this province would like to have the discretionary power of attorney to distribute local welfare.

Mr. Peacock: This is a point that Mr. Sheehan deals with in his brief to council. In what way was discretion ever removed from the local welfare authorities?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not so sure that the discretion was to a great degree ever removed, except that a decision of the board of review, as I recall it, seemed to remove this discretion and to make the general feeling around that it was almost automatic that a welfare administrator should grant assistance if these people showed up at the—

Mr. Peacock: If a young person showed up?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Showed up—yes.

Mr. Peacock: Without making the usual determinations as to need?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Peacock: In what way—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, no—certain determinations as to need would have to be made, but there was a degree of public feeling that it was a right.

Mr. Peacock: Well, The General Welfare Assistance Act, I think, does set out that assistance is a right where the person fulfills the tests of need. In what way did the board

of review decision render the administrator's discretion less than it was before and render him less able to determine need on the part of the young people?

Hon. Mr. Wells: If I recall, the board of review said something to the effect that it was not the right of the administrator to be delving into the parental background or to the school progress of these people.

Mr. Peacock: So the force of the regulation is now to correct that—

Hon. Mr. Wells: To correct that particular point and—

Mr. Peacock: —decision of the board of review?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The decision of the board of review is just one part of it. It is to correct what is a growing public feeling that there should be discretion in this particular area, that is, those under 18 receiving general welfare assistance.

Mr. Peacock: The difficulty I have, Mr. Chairman, and I gather it is shared by a number of other people, is that of determining exactly in what way the discretion was deficient prior to the change in regulations, and in what way that discretion was enhanced right now. If, in fact, the board of review said there were certain matters that the welfare administrators—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is just an academic argument, though. The point is that whether it was or it was not, there was a great feeling that it was and the new regulations merely strengthen the position and make it very clear that there is a discretionary power on the part of the local welfare administrators. They in no way stop anyone from getting assistance if they are in need.

Mr. Peacock: But what the minister is now saying, Mr. Chairman, is that the new regulations set up tests which were denied to a welfare administrator under a decision of the board of review. Now, let me speak for a moment of these—

Hon. Mr. Wells: The board of review decision is not the only thing that—

Mr. Peacock: The other matters the minister has referred to are the resolutions of the city of Kingston, requests of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, the county of Halton and a number of other municipalities whose names he cannot give us, for tighten-

ing up on the distribution of welfare to young persons.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Ottawa.

Mr. Peacock: Ottawa is one? Windsor is not one of them, Windsor objected. How many other communities like Windsor or lesser than Windsor objected to the changes? Or was Windsor the only one to have the benefit of considerations of all the questions involved in the change of regulations?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not sure the city of Kingston resolution was sent to all of the others. The regulations that I announced were considered by the municipal liaison committee, the Welfare Administrators Association, in fact they helped us to formulate them.

Mr. Peacock: I sent the minister a copy of the brief written by Mr. Sheehan, which he presented to city council.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Incidentally, I might say that Windsor never objected to us in writing.

Mr. Peacock: I am not sure what date it reached the minister but he acknowledged it on April 30.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have it here.

Mr. Peacock: He acknowledged it on April 30, so he had it in his possession for a number of days perhaps, or perhaps more than that, before the actual announcement of the regulations. Can I ask the minister what consideration he gave to the points made by Mr. Sheehan in his brief, generally expressing opposition to changes in the regulations which would afford greater discretion to the local administration?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, the brief was here and it went into the input that goes into all these decisions. It was an opinion among many that go into making up the input that goes into these policy decisions. I do not think I can give you any more of an answer than that. He states a point of view which I know is held in certain areas and this has to be weighed against other points of view.

Mr. Peacock: I wonder if the minister would agree with me that in respect—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I must say I do not agree with Mr. Sheehan's point of view.

Mr. Peacock: That is what I was going to ask. Mr. Sheehan makes a number of points.

I take it then that all of them were rejected in the consideration made by your officials?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot bring to mind the complete brief, but the particular two amendments that we brought in were brought in to give back the discretionary power. As I mentioned in my statement and have mentioned since, I do not think they in any way discriminate against young people—indeed, not in any way nor in any manner.

Mr. Peacock: All right. Speaking now of the minister's statement of May 27, may I ask this question? I will quote from the first page of his statement:

The intent of this amendment is to ensure that needy students are eligible for general assistance when they are making an effort to do well in school and should stay there rather than be forced to quit and seek work.

That is described in that same paragraph as one change. Can the minister tell me how this is given expression in the regulation itself? Does it refer specifically to needy students?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The regulation?

Mr. Peacock: The new regulation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, the new regulation gives the welfare administrator the opportunity to find out if the students are doing well in school or not, or if they are staying there for other purposes.

Mr. Peacock: I take it this was a test that was not made in the past, when a young person applied for general welfare.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is a section that had been in and was one of the sections that was removed in the past. It is now being put back. This is the section that is being put back in.

Mr. Peacock: This is one of the points to which reference is made as restoring discretion at the local level, I take it. There once was such a test—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Peacock: How will it work now that it is reinstated? Will the general welfare administrator first determine whether the applicant is enrolled in school?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I presume he will ask the applicant if he is enrolled in school. If he says, "Yes, I am enrolled in school," at the

discretion of the administrator he can now ask the applicant to get a statement from the school saying that it is to his benefit to be in that institution.

Mr. Peacock: What is the point of that question?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The point of that question is to find out whether, in fact, according to the school authorities that person is in school because it can be of benefit to him, or whether he is there because by being in school he felt that he could get on welfare without having to work.

Mr. Peacock: If the person who is applying is over 16 years of age, is it likely that he would remain in school if pressure was being placed on him by the school authorities to leave because it was of no benefit to continue there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think it is possible that this might happen.

Mr. Peacock: All right. What is the administrator's answer—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I see no reason why the administrator should not be able to ask this and should not be able to ask the school authorities.

Mr. Peacock: What is the administrator's decision likely to be if the school authority—the principal or the teacher—says, "Your applicant is wasting his time in school, albeit he is over 16 years of age. We have counseled him to leave, but there is nothing available for him in the job market given today's high rate of unemployment and lack of opportunity." What is the welfare administrator's answer likely to be at that point? I take it that when you speak of this particular class of person, a needy student, this is without reference to whether he is living at home or away from home?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No. That is right.

Dr. C. J. Williams (Municipal Welfare Administration): That question does not matter—whether he is living at home or away from home in this particular aspect.

Mr. Peacock: If that does not matter, and the administrator does not inquire into the person's home situation, what is his answer likely to be, if a school principal who has a particularly negative view of a student says, "No, he is not a good student, he is wasting

his time here"? What is the administrator's decision likely to be?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know. It is up to the administrator.

Mr. Peacock: What criteria will the administrator use in dealing with the school authority, assuming it is a secondary school, for the time being? Will he rely on the principal's opinion of the student's attitude? Will he rely solely on marks given by teachers of the student? What is he to rely on?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is in his discretion now. He is a professional in his field and we would hope that a lot of different forces would come into play here. He has a chance to find out something about this person, about why this person needs to be on welfare, about the family life, about whether his parents can support him or not. This is the whole point of these regulations—to try to bring back some more sensible form of reconciliation into this whole situation.

I think, as I expressed—I do not know whether you were here the other day—it is certainly my hope that 18 becomes the age of majority. What we are really doing is dabbling to some extent in a piecemeal manner on this right now, but in a manner which we can do and which is certainly not inconsistent with what is happening across this country.

Mr. Peacock: By that expression of desire, you indicate that these regulations would then apply only to those persons over 18 years of age. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Which regulations are they?

Mr. Peacock: The ones before us, that I am speaking of; the new amendments to the general welfare assistance regulations.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no; they apply to those basically under 18.

Mr. Peacock: Under 18?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They apply to people who are in secondary school. You are not eligible for welfare assistance if you are in university or a community college; you are just not eligible.

Mr. Peacock: First of all, we are talking about a situation or a person where the home factor is not at question in the application. I take it that in this first category—

Hon. Mr. Wells: It probably is a factor, because these things are all interrelated. We are amending two sections of the Act, which are separate amendments but are really part of the same problem.

Mr. Peacock: But in regard to making the test, the administrator in the instance of the needy student does not inquire into his home situation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: He will under the other section.

Mr. Peacock: Under the other section. All right. This remains rather fuzzy. May I refer to Mr. Sheehan's point in this regard? The law at present allows a person to leave home voluntarily or to be ejected from home by his parents at the age of 16. He says:

The law also permits a person to leave school at the end of the academic year in which he reaches the age of 16—in effect, legally admits any person over the age of 16 into the labour market.

Mr. Sheehan goes on to point out:

He is, therefore, taking his chances, just as any other adult is, even though he may not have reached the age of majority in competing for employment.

The minister well knows the difficulties that can face a young person without skills in today's job market.

Mr. Sheehan also points out:

On the parent's part, he can obtain a peace bond which would forcibly bar a child over 16 from returning home. Under civil law a person over the age of 16 may use credit for purchases of necessities and other materials, and he is liable, not the parent, for any debts that he may incur.

He no longer enjoys the protection of the child welfare legislation, and his situation, when it comes to making an application and being tested by the administrator for need is quite different from that of the deserted wife. Now if a young person is in all of these respects treated as an adult by the school system, by our statute law and by our common law, why then do tests have to be made as to his performance at school or his particular relationship with his parents at home?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Because I think that the feeling in this particular category is that a person who is still in a school and feels that he should receive welfare—I think that this is a special situation. I certainly do not feel that the 18-year-olds and under should be

considered in the same category as those over 18. I think that the situation is damaging to family life. It is damaging to many areas.

It all leads us to the ultimate conclusion that really we should have a uniform age of majority at about 18. I have no control over this particular determination, at least the complete part of this determination, but I do have control over a small part of it.

As I say, I do not find this inconsistent with anything that is going on in other provinces. I find that this seems to be the general trend. What we are really doing is saying that under the law it may be that these people who reach the age of 16 have reached a particular status that equates them in a lot of ways with adults. But the damaging effects that are liable to happen to their complete life by the kind of things that happen between the ages of 16 and 18 suggest that some person who is a professional in this matter should be able to give them a hand, rather than automatically having to hand them out money.

Mr. Peacock: All right. That is agreed. But the dispute arises over which professional—the local welfare administrator or a professional in the family counselling field, a psychologist or psychiatrist, or other medical doctor.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, that is right. This is where we really differ.

Mr. Peacock: That is where the Canadian Mental Health Association of Metropolitan Toronto differs with you for one, and with Mr. Sheehan.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, that is right. But then, you see, we get to the point where they differ because of the actions of some welfare administrators; now that is some of them. Our friend from Grey-Bruce (Mr. Sargent) was talking about one of his friends the other day—

Mr. Peacock: But every administrator will have, in your words, the right to decide that it would not be in a young person's best interest to return to the parental home. It is on page 2 of your statement of May 27.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The point is these family counsellors, which the mental health council talks about, are a professional group. They are a professional group of social workers, who play an important role in the whole process of our social service. When I meet with

the welfare administrators they, too, consider themselves a professional group who have a role to play. They say to me, "How can we improve our image?"

There is a dedicated group there. They are not all of the category that we tend to think they are, when we say we should not give them that discretion. If we continually chisel away at any time at the responsibility and discretion that we can give to this group, we tend to make them more in the kind of image that some of us imagine they are—some town clerk who has been given the job; who did not want to do it but has the job and the extra title of a welfare administrator.

What I want to see is this professional group themselves fulfilling this service as indeed they are in areas like, I think, Metropolitan Toronto and Ottawa and lots of the county units. Plus they have available to them the support service. They have available to them all the various social service support that they can use. They do not have to do this themselves, although they have the ultimate responsibility, but they have the support people, the counselling people, the social workers who they can ask to do investigations for them.

Mr. Peacock: Do the regulations specifically require the administrator to consult with such professionals and other professions?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, they do not.

Mr. Peacock: Even though the larger centres like Toronto, Hamilton and, to some extent possibly, Windsor, although the number is very small—have family counselling people accessible to the local welfare administrators? It is obvious that the Toronto branch of the CMHA does not agree that the welfare administrator will be capable himself of making the judgement. They stated that, in the Toronto Globe and Mail article of May 29, investigators who examine welfare applicants under 18 should not be employed by the local welfare department. In other words, there should be independent consultation between the administrator making his decision and the professionals in the family counselling or other services.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is a point of view, as to whether you have to spell it out in regulations. As I say I do not think you can. I think that if you accept the director of social services, as he is in Metropolitan Toronto, as a competent professional in this field just as the people who work for the Canadian Mental Health Association are,

there is no reason—he knows these things just as well as they do.

Mr. Peacock: I suggest to the minister that at least in the community of Windsor—and perhaps this was one of the factors that led the city council of Windsor to reject the Kingston resolution—there is no way that the family counselling staff will have the time or the opportunity to see all of the young people who may make application to the local welfare office, to make what the minister described in the statement as an appropriate assessment of the home on behalf of the administrator. That is one of the difficulties.

The minister, somewhere in these estimates, has budgeted for family services the grand total of \$550,000, of which \$28,000 is a transfer payment for the cost of providing assessment, restorative and therapeutic services, including the purchase of service from private agencies to applicants and recipients under The Family Benefits Act and other necessary costs. And a grant of \$80,000 for credit counselling service, which is really not directly and initially related to family counselling.

There is no way of expanding in a short period of time family counselling services sufficient to equip all of the municipal welfare administrations with independent professional advice as to what the home situation is. Let me point out what Mr. Sheehan said in this respect in his brief. It is just one paragraph long.

The absence of a legal contract between children and their parents after the age of 16 is based on values held by our society and backed by every known sociological and psychological theorist familiar with the western world. The proper and natural process at work between parent and child at this stage of late adolescence which falls between the ages of 16 and 24 years, is separation and independence in preparation for the taking on of adult responsibilities by the child. According to developmental psychologists, the primary tasks of the adolescent between 16 and 21, with regard to his own continued healthy development, are achieving emotional independence of parents and other adults and achieving assurance of economic independence.

Now it may not be possible in every instance for a young person who is struggling within his family to achieve that independence emotionally from them, to assure himself of the economic independence that he needs to set

up a separate household for himself, because of the lack of job opportunities and difficulties in remaining at school.

I find I agree with Mr. Sheehan in this respect, that it is going to be extremely difficult for a local welfare administrator on his own, or with some consultation with very busy social workers in private agencies, to find out whether or not it is appropriate for a young person to return to home or to leave home. That is going to be, I would suggest to the minister, an almost insurmountable task that he is thrusting on the shoulders of the local welfare administrators on top of all the other difficulties they are now facing in dealing with a much greater volume of applications at a time of high unemployment.

Mr. Sheehan points out that in his work with what he calls "detached youth" in Windsor, a welfare allowance often enables the young person economically to get through a transitional period of adjustment through separation from his family; or, in many instances as a result of counselling, a return to the family. Without the support of the welfare payment the young person could not have made it through.

That is the kind of information that is going to be extremely difficult for a welfare administrator to elicit in every case—as to whether or not the payment of the benefit will assist the young person to establish himself independently or, alternatively, can emotionally afford to return home.

Very often, you know, I would think parents would be under considerable pressure to say "Yes, we can provide a good home for this child. It is what we have been doing all our lives but he has not turned out. Or what have we been doing wrong? We do not know where we went wrong with him and now he has run off."

Do you not feel that the parents of such young applicants will feel constrained to say, "Yes, we have provided a good home and we will provide a good home if he returns."

What else can they say when approached by local welfare?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think, though, herein is a chance for a discussion and listening to both sides of the story. Someone in that department on the staff, or the welfare administrator, is going to have to make some decisions. That is where his discretionary power comes in.

Mr. Peacock: I can accept the philosophy behind the changes—the philosophy is repre-

sented by the minister—if I knew, in fact, that such counselling services and assessment services were really available to local administrators. I suggest that they are not, even in large centres—the minister therefore is returning a discretion that will be exercised often—perhaps not always—but often in an arbitrary way and to the detriment of the applicant.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I would dispute that. I think that the counselling services which will be available are available in a lot of places other than from family service agencies. There is no reason why the network of services available to the educational system cannot be used here. These can be approached in asking the school authorities to comment on the desirability of the person who attends school.

Mr. Peacock: That may be an assessment made in complete isolation from any knowledge of the home situation. It often is.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, no. A lot of school systems now have social workers working with home situations, and particularly with a student who they might say is not benefiting from attending school, and they have a complete report on the home situation. Large boards are doing this now all the time.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, but if that is the case why should the person be denied the assistance?

Hon. Mr. Wells: If he is in need he will not be denied assistance.

Mr. Peacock: Yes, but if he continues in school and does well, what happens? He gets the assistance?

Hon. Mr. Wells: If he continues in school and is doing well and if he deserves to be in school then the other assessments come into play; he will get assistance, yes.

Mr. Peacock: And if he is not doing well?

Hon. Mr. Wells: But if he is not in school and he is not doing well—

Mr. Peacock: He cannot do both.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, if he is in school and he is not doing well then it becomes obvious that he is in school because that is the present requirement to get the welfare payment. He will then be leaving school. Then, of course, he may still continue on welfare but he has to fit into the other

criteria, of registration with Canada Manpower. But that is if he is just in school marking time.

Mr. Peacock: Well, that indicates to me, Mr. Minister, if you are then going to review all the present recipients of welfare who fall within that category, that you are not just concerned with new applications but that you will be examining persons who are not in school, or not doing well, who the school authorities say do not benefit, then your local administrator will cut them off.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would think somewhere along the line a review will be done. A review will probably be done over the summer as the new school season starts. Why would it not?

Mr. Peacock: Well, what assessment can be made there of a person's behaviour or performance in school? How many do you expect to draw as a result of this kind of review from the rolls between the ages of 16 and 18?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I could not tell you this. This would have to be what the local administrator will have to do. I guess you and I just have a rather different approach to the whole problem.

Mr. Peacock: Right. I am suspicious of the political pressures behind the changes, the kinds of representations that have been made to the minister that result in these changes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is just not the situation. It is not political pressure. It is the honest concern of many, many parents in this province who have said that the feeling is abroad that if you stay in school and you leave home you are entitled to welfare. You know, to me, when we talk about the people getting in the welfare cycle and so forth, I think we just have to be a little more concerned about a young person 16 to 18 suddenly just going on welfare.

Mr. Peacock: I am sure the minister, with all his officials and professional staff, would not allow himself to be pushed by some such feeling that is abroad in the land; that he would have to have more concrete evidence before he moved.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The concrete evidence is—

Mr. Peacock: And where thoughtful consideration has been given, at least in one instance, what Kingston was seeking, what

Toronto was seeking, was turned down by the city of Windsor's elected council.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, yes, but the city of Windsor turned it down. They did not bother to write us and tell us they turned it down, whereas the city of Ottawa came and talked to me about it. The city of Toronto have talked to me about it and they have made their very honest assessments of the whole situation and said, "Look, this is an area where we think there should be some discretion"—and we sat down with the liaison committee of the welfare administrators and they felt that this was an area where there should be some change.

As I say, from our point of view, I have personally got hundreds of letters and I have talked to many, many people who are very disturbed about the way the situation was going and felt that somebody somewhere should be doing a little investigating and doing a little assessment before these people were put on welfare.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): On this point, Mr. Minister—

Mr. Chairman: Excuse me, Mr. Trotter, there is quite a lengthy list here. Several other people waited for two days—

Mr. Trotter: I just wanted to ask—

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Are we on the same point?

Mr. Trotter: It was on this point.

Mr. Chairman: It is all on the same matter.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): The matter of young people?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we discussed that the other night.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Not on this point.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben.

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Not on this point, sir.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier. Mr. Smith. Mr. Trotter. You are on the process of elimination here.

Mr. Trotter: The point I wanted to ask is: under the discretion that an administrator might have they are now given discretion as to a person 18 or under getting welfare,

but they still have some discretion with anybody over 18 do they not?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The legislation is fairly explicit. If they fill in and fit the criteria in the legislation then they are eligible for the assistance.

Mr. Braithwaite: Did I understand the minister to say, Mr. Chairman, that was the very point we asked the other night and he said as long as they were over 18 it did not really matter. I presumed that their cases would not be reviewed if they were 19 and 20 years old.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no. You are quite right. I hesitate to make a flat statement that there is no discretion, because there may be a couple of points somewhere in The General Welfare Assistance Act where the administrator does happen to use his discretion in cases, but—

Mr. Peacock: You turn unemployed people down all the time. They are adults.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right, but you cannot say the kind of discretion that they have here does not come into play. They do not do that all the time.

Mr. Peacock: I probably have as many form 6s in my files as you have letters from mothers and fathers complaining about welfare payments, because they are refused.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was going to say that the people that are refused still, of course, have the right to appeal to the review board.

Mr. Deans: This is the point. There are two matters which I wanted to mention to the minister in regard to this.

First of all in Hamilton they have used discretion in spite of the Act. They have exercised a great deal of caution in the handing out of moneys to young people and taking any steps that would dislocate them from their families. But the benefit that always seemed to accrue at the end was the welfare administrator—and he did a very good job I might say, he always concerned himself about the home life, about the school work that was being done, about the benefit or whatever the detrimental effects of the move—in the final analysis knew that he was going to have to make the payment provided the child or the young person continued or insisted on the receipt of the payment.

I want to say in a case that comes quickly to mind I can recall, after hearing from a social worker, after hearing from a psychiatrist, after discussion by a minister, the welfare administrator was still reluctant to make the payments because his interpretation of what was a good home, differed considerably from their interpretation of what was a good home. The home that this individual came from was an excellent home. I could have lived there. You could have lived there. A beautiful place, a lovely residential neighbourhood, parents who obviously were concerned.

But to have sent this young person back to that home, my guess was that they would have ended up paying considerably more over the long haul in psychiatric benefits and maintenance of this person in some kind of a hospital than they would pay in the short term in providing benefit for this person during the winter months of this last winter.

I know the welfare administrator well, and respect him, but I am convinced that if he had had the discretion that you have now given him at that point he would not have made the payment, and I am equally convinced that it could have had disastrous effects because both of the parents in separate interviews with both the welfare administrator and with myself, explained that they wanted the child back, they wanted this young person back. They could not understand why this person had left home, and yet it was obvious to anyone who dealt with the person outside of the home, who met this person away from the home altogether, that to send the person back would have been disastrous.

Now what worries me is that there is not any real opportunity to review after the decision is made, that having once made that decision based on whatever criteria the administrator sets for himself, and he has his own preconceived notions of what a nice and a good home ought to be, we are going to find any number of young people living at home and creating a disruptive situation, both for the parents and for themselves, that may well far exceed in total cost the value that they would get if they went on welfare. I can see members of the Legislature spending many, many hours sitting in welfare administrators' offices trying to iron out problems of young people and parents, who will come to us and ask that we interfere—intervene if you want, but “interfere” is really the word—and I know that there is going to be then a great deal more political pressure put on the welfare administrators to look kindly on applications than there is at present.

I think that if the welfare administrator now exercises all of the powers that he has, and in addition to that takes a particular interest in the individual cases of young people, he can probably effect the desired ends that you are trying to achieve by your legislative change. I suspect the reason we are having the change is because certain welfare administrators did not take the time to try to understand the basic problems, and did not take the time to investigate the home situation adequately, and did not take the time to look at the alternatives.

You have simply made it very easy for those welfare administrators. They really do not have any worries any more. They can go ahead and just say, “It is my opinion that this is what should be done.” That would have been their opinion before, anyway. That is the kind of opinion that they came to, because they are that kind of people and they are in the minority, no doubt.

I just feel that somewhere, someplace, there has to be an opportunity for this person to present evidence, if you want to call it that, that backs up their claim that they would find living at home intolerable, and that it would be disruptive. There has to be someone other than the welfare administrator who must make the decision in the first instance. There must be someone else to whom they can turn to present whatever it is that they have in the way of reports from other interested persons, social workers and doctors, and the like, in order to ensure that there will be the opportunity for another hearing in the event that other people in the community are not satisfied with the final decision.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Trotter?

Mr. Ben, rather.

Mr. Ben: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I had not intended to speak on this matter. I was going to try to include it in what I had to say later, but it seems to me that most of what has been said the last few days about this matter of welfare for youngsters has been placing emphasis on the so-called rights of the child but very little toward the preservation of the family unit as a whole. At least, that is how it appears to me.

There is a section in the Criminal Code which makes it an offence for a person to fail to supply the necessities to those to whom he has a responsibility in this life, and it strikes me as strange that much as we mouth the word of filial responsibility and the preservation of the family unit, one has to

search in vain through legal tomes to find an example where children were prosecuted for having failed to provide the necessities of life to their aged parents, or even parents to their infant children, when they are able to do so in whole or in part.

Under The Deserted Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act a child is deemed to be deserted, or a wife to be deserted, when a husband fails to make adequate provision for the maintenance and support of either the family or both, being in whole or in part able so to do. The Criminal Code, as I say, goes beyond that. How often do we hear of anybody bringing a prosecution under that section?

I recognize a child's right to be an individual, but later on I am going to be speaking on the family, and it strikes me very little is being done to preserve the family as a unit. Surely a child of 16, 17 or 18 years of age is still, relatively speaking, immature when it comes to deciding what it can do and what it should do. Surely there is a prime responsibility on the parents to maintain that child in the family surrounding until such time as it is prepared to go out in society.

Most people have the attitude that as long as you provide a tent city for our youngsters, with adequate toilet facilities, and perhaps a hot kitchen, that is all you have to do.

Mr. Braithwaite: Showers too.

Mr. Ben: No, no, showers are not a necessity. The beard covers the need for a shower. But this is the situation. For example, Mr. Chairman, if people say, "Fine, let the 16-year-old go away," because it is mad at the parent, then at least make the parent pay for the support of that child while away from home to the degree that the parent is able to.

I daresay that there are very few men in this room who, when they were youngsters, at one time or another did not put a hankie full of the necessities of life over a stick and threaten to leave home. They walked around the block and they came back, because that was what we expected at that time. They do not walk around the block any more because the TTC gives them a free ride to some welfare agency.

It is nice they are able to do that, but on the other hand, what kind of a society are we going to have? We kick the grandmothers and the grandfathers out of the house. Now we are kicking the kids out of the house. Are we going to build nothing but bachelor

accommodation in the future? This is the way it seems to be shaping up.

The minister has been sort of taken to task about giving discretion to these people to decide whether or not they should give welfare. I want to tell you I do not think you went far enough, Mr. Minister. I think they ought to take a good look at what is going on before they do anything of the sort.

The cartoon in today's Globe and Mail—I think it was today's Globe and Mail—the political caricature, you might call it, shows two youngsters sitting outside a welfare office and one is saying to the other, "Will you come and live with me, I am going to be 18 next week?" or something like that. This is the kind of thing we are actually aiding and abetting.

It is fine to speak about depriving them of their rights, but doggone it, parents took the trouble to conceive a child, who got diaper—

Mr. Deans: No trouble!

Mr. Ben: —got diaper rash and probably got the measles, and they nursed him day and night instead of going on vacations, and they went out and bought him ice skates or roller skates or baseball bats which they could not afford. The one thing they looked forward to was the fact that they were raising children that they could love and have with them at least until the children got married—somebody to cherish and somebody to cherish them.

All of a sudden along comes the year 1971 and everybody says, "To hell with that, you do not have the right to your children. You do not have the right to cherish them. You do not have the right to love them. You do not have the right to be cherished by them. You do not have the right to be loved by them. The government is going to give them a handout and they can go away any time they need."

Mr. Peacock: That is not what love means.

Mr. Ben: Why do these people worry about birth control pills and family planning clinics? You keep up this thing and people are just going to say there is no sense having children and they will not need birth control pills or condoms or any other kind of thing.

Mr. Braithwaite: You are on today.

Mr. Ben: Sure, because I wonder why I am sitting here listening to this kind of stuff. If you want a permissive society, go and have a permissive society. But are you going to

have a society that becomes that permissive? That is the question that we have to debate.

In the city of Toronto they are arguing about having a tent city. Now to me that is the most asinine argument that they could have. I say that the city council was right in denying the youngsters a tent city, because if the children should be looked after they should be looked after under proper conditions.

We scream, every time the estimates on Education and University Affairs come up, that we are not utilizing our educational facilities all year around. Instead of putting children up in dormitories, where they would have a good roof over their heads and have showers and a cafeteria available, they are going to put them up in a tent city, either on the old grounds of Mercer Reformatory or in High Park.

I remember going down to Coronation Park with the deputy chief of police when they had the Festival Express here last year. That was that big rock and roll festival they had at the exhibition. And it rained—it rained for a couple of days. These youngsters were housed in facilities down in Coronation Park. They even set up latrine facilities for them. The reason I mention latrines is I can only imagine that after it had rained for a couple of days the muddy conditions, with the board catwalks around and these portable latrines, must have been as close as you could come to World War I trench warfare as was conceivable. Now, some of the gentlemen here may have been there; I was not—but is this what you are going to throw our youngsters into, a tent city, with all the mud and junk and other stuff around? All they can say is "Ho, ho, ho! All right, if that is their attitude on life, that is not mine.

That is all I am going to say. I just suggest to you that you had better start thinking how we can preserve the family, not how to make it easier to break up.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Braithwaite.

Mr. Deans: What do you suggest?

Mr. Ben: I will get around to that when it comes to my turn to speak; I was just adding to what you had to say.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Chairman, could the minister check with his people to see whether the information on the case workers in Rexdale, Etobicoke, is available?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have field staff in the Rexdale area of Metro. We have eight full-

time field workers in the area bounded by Keele Street on the west—

Mr. Braithwaite: Rexdale? Keele Street?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but there is the area that goes right out to Keele Street on the west and north of St. Clair Avenue. Wait a minute—Keele Street on the east and north of St. Clair Avenue.

Mr. Braithwaite: What are the other boundaries?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The boundaries, I guess, are the boundaries of Metro.—

Mr. Braithwaite: Eight workers; that is the total sum?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Eight workers, yes.

Mr. Braithwaite: What type of workers are they?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They are field staff.

Mr. Braithwaite: I wanted some general information on that particular section. Perhaps the individual in charge could give us some general thoughts on that, some general information. I will wait.

Mr. W. G. Smith (Field Services Branch): These are our regular field staff, field workers, whom we recruit and train ourselves. In addition to that, I think on the note it also indicates there are three professionally qualified family services workers assigned to that northwest corner of Metro. We do not have the workers assigned to a small geographical area; rather we have, as in this case, say, eight workers for a larger area. This gives us more flexibility and makes it a little more efficient—

Mr. Braithwaite: This is north of St. Clair Avenue—

Mr. W. G. Smith: The line—if you project it from St. Clair—is roughly the southern boundary line of that area.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Chairman, I was asking the minister the other day for some general information not only on the number of workers in the area but also on the plans for the area. If he mentions Keele as the east boundary and St. Clair as the south boundary and we are talking about northwest Metro, there must be over 200,000 or 300,000 people we are talking about in that corner of Metro.

I am sure there must be more than eight people looking after the needs of those people, Mr. Chairman. Is that all the workers from this department—eight people, no more, no less—no special workers of any kind? There must be—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I say eight plus three family service workers.

Mr. Braithwaite: Three family service workers—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Three professionally qualified family service workers.

Mr. Braithwaite: Are there any assigned specifically to the Rexdale area? This is what I wanted to know.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is a general area there in the breakdown of the Metro Toronto branch. Our areas may not correspond with your geographical area of Rexdale.

Mr. Braithwaite: Rexdale is a smaller area.

Hon. Mr. Wells: These people would all work in and out of that area.

Mr. Braithwaite: In that case, could the minister tell us just about how many cases, how big a caseload, these people have? How many visits do they make in a week? I just want to get some idea of what sort of service is being rendered in northwest Metropolitan Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Wells: About 150 to 200 families is the average caseload. That is the specialized caseload of the field workers; they are responsible for about 150 to 200 families. I am sorry, it would be about 300 cases if you take them mixed with all the—

Mr. Braithwaite: Each worker then is responsible for 300 cases?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, 300 cases.

Mr. Braithwaite: What is the frequency of visiting?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The frequency of visiting would vary depending on the case. As I say, some of them try to stay away from them as much as possible. We have even instituted mail procedures with some of the cases, some of the disabled ones.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am talking about the ones who need visiting.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The ones who need visiting—Mr. Smith?

Mr. W. G. Smith: I am sorry, I did not hear the question.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Have we any breakdown of the number of times a case would be visited?

Mr. W. G. Smith: No. Again this is really determined by the nature of each case individually. Normally a minimum number of visits, except where there is a mail-out, would be once a year. For many of them in the family situations, it would be four times a year. Others, if the situation warrants it, might be visited every week for a period of time. In Metropolitan Toronto, in total, we average about 7,500 visits by field workers per month.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is there a depot in Etobicoke itself?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we do not have regional offices within Metro. We have only the Metropolitan Toronto region office on Eglinton Avenue.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is there anybody working through the municipality of the borough of Etobicoke who looks after emergency cases and things like that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, yes. Do not forget this is our staff we are talking about now. There is the Metro Toronto social services department which has its Etobicoke branch. There are people working out of that—special assistance; some mental assistance; general welfare assistance. They all are handled through their workers. I have no idea what their staff is.

Mr. Braithwaite: What I really wanted, Mr. Chairman, was some idea of what plans the minister's department has for that particular area with reference to workers. That is the reason I asked the question. Do you have that information or could you get it for me? I want to know what plans the department has for servicing the area in the future. Are they going to be standard or contracted or enlarged?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think in that general area of Metro that we are talking about, we probably would see us adding about one case worker a year; one field worker a year.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is any use being made of the social workers who are coming out of the community colleges?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Braithwaite: In that area?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, in that area. I do not know whether they are in your area.

Mr. Braithwaite: There is no breakdown like that available?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I could not tell you.

Mr. Braithwaite: One other matter, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to ask the minister about the medical services rendered in the R. J. Smith apartments on Kendleton Drive in Rexdale. This complex, a senior citizens' complex, has three big buildings; some hundreds of people live there. What I am concerned about, Mr. Chairman—and I have asked this for several years running now—is does the minister have any plans for, or is there any provision being made for, the province assisting financially so that a doctor could be available in the evenings—or during the night—in big complexes such as this?

I understand from the residents of this particular home—and I am sure it is representative of many other senior citizens' apartments—that many of the difficulties, physical and health difficulties, arise in the middle of the night. Some of these people tell me that they have to set up a buddy system with their next-door neighbour so that if they need help, they bang on the wall and this type of thing.

The question to me, Mr. Chairman, would be what plans does the minister have for the provision of some sort of resident doctor in the evening? Is there no provision, or is there no possibility, of granting aid or some other financial assistance to Metropolitan Toronto so that this type of situation could be looked into? I have brought this up, Mr. Chairman, more than once and for the senior citizens really, this is the big fear when you live in a large place such as this.

Now, if you are husband and wife, it is not too bad, but if you are living on your own and you do get ill in the evening—I am talking about in the night, in the middle of the night; you may have a heart attack; you may have any one of many things that could happen—how does one get hold of a doctor in a hurry? I am certain that this problem has come up before and I am certain that something should be done about it. Perhaps the

minister has had an opportunity to talk to his staff and he could tell us about that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Now this home you are talking about is a home for the aged, is it?

Mr. Braithwaite: No, it is an apartment complex.

Hon. Mr. Wells: A senior citizens' apartment?

Mr. Braithwaite: On Kendleton Drive in Rexdale.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, of course, basically they are owned and run by Metro Housing and what we are really talking about is that there is a special component there because they are all senior citizens. But it is really the same as anybody living in an apartment or indeed anyone trying to get medical assistance at any time, particularly in the evenings or at times when it is more difficult.

Mr. Braithwaite: I do not think it is quite the same. You have such a concentration of a certain age group. It is not the same.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I agree. There is a concentration of people with a higher potential for needing assistance but it is the same to the extent that there is no support staff in these buildings, such as nursing staff.

Mr. Braithwaite: Are you certain of that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not if it is a senior citizens' apartment, there is not. If it is an in-between type of operation where they are somehow connected with a home for the aged, which of course is the kind of ultimate planning we would like to see; we think there is great merit for these senior citizens' apartments not being left on their own like a normal apartment, sitting by themselves. If they were connected with a home for the aged next door, on the same campus site, then of course this support personnel would be available, because in the homes for the aged there is 24-hour nursing care.

There is a medical person on call; they may not be on the premises all the time but they are pretty quickly available.

But what we are talking about here is a special arrangement for these people, living in normal apartments, to get quick medical service at night. I think the best thing that could be suggested for them is a type of house doctor whose number they had and whom they knew they could call, or the

number of the emergency department of the nearest hospital.

Mr. Braithwaite: I think they have that already, Mr. Chairman. I do not think that is good enough. I do not think that the minister can say that this is a Metro-run complex—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You may make a very valid point that we have to do something of a more special nature in this particular situation.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am certain you have the same type of situation in other urban areas. This has been brought up for some years running now. I do not know what it would cost to have a resident doctor there in the evenings, or very close; but I am wondering if the minister's department has not looked into it before, why have they not.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, of course—

Mr. Braithwaite: It has been brought up in the House by other members and myself.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have one of these apartments in my riding, too—

Mr. Braithwaite: You are kind of young to be a senior citizen.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —but I have never had any problem brought to my attention. It may be because that apartment in my riding is half a block down the street from the hospital so that the emergency of the hospital is used. I meet with the residents of that senior citizens' apartment all the time, and they have never indicated they have any problem obtaining medical care, whether it be on a regular or an emergency basis.

Mr. Braithwaite: I believe the minister but, as I said, I meet with these people regularly and they have.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, okay. I think we will just have to try to—

Mr. Braithwaite: Can we get some sort of commitment out of the minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, we will have to look into it and see about the problem. I will be glad to talk to Metro and see what the situation is. I see the R. J. Smith home is about two or three miles from Humber Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Braithwaite: Oh, no. It is more than two or three miles.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Is it more than two or three miles?

Mr. Braithwaite: You better go back to your source there.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I am from the east end.

Mr. Braithwaite: Well, I am from the west end, and it is much more than that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Two or three miles is a long way.

Mr. Braithwaite: I bring the matter up, Mr. Chairman, because there is a great deal of fear on the part of the senior citizens that something may happen in the night. If it does should they not be able to get medical help at once, the same as you or I? This is why I bring it up.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will look into it and see what the situation is. I think that the long-range solution to this, to alleviate a lot of these fears, is to try to encourage the development of the senior citizens' apartments in close proximity to the homes for the aged so that the support services are readily available.

Mr. Ben: Just on this topic, perhaps my colleague might be interested in knowing that I was under the impression most of these homes did have an honorary physician connected therewith. He mentioned this R. J. Smith home; well, there is one from the United Church on Queen Street, the Lavell Smith home, and my brother, a doctor, served as the honorary doctor there. Whenever there was anything wrong, they would give him a call.

I thought that most of these homes that were put up by church groups or something of this sort did have a doctor in their community who sort of attached himself to this home and would be responsive to any call received. If not, perhaps this is the way it should be developed. If a local church—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, this was my understanding, that there was usually—

Mr. Braithwaite: The situation is a little different here. It is not just a home; it is a complex of apartment buildings. It is not quite the same situation. I believe Metro says the borough should provide night medical services and so forth and so on, and it goes around in circles; so I am bringing it up to the minister and I will take his

undertaking that he is going to look into it and that is sufficient.

I want to say a few words, Mr. Chairman, on health aids for the aged. I want to discuss the report of the health aids committee and in that regard I had our office contact Mr. Charles MacDonald, the chairman of the health aids report implementation committee of the Ontario Welfare Council. Now the minister knows that Mr. MacDonald is the retirees' representative of the United Auto Workers union and I understand that he and Miss Garnick of the staff of the Ontario Welfare Council section on aging have been in touch with the minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Who is that?

Mr. Braithwaite: Miss Garnick. Mr. MacDonald, as I said, is the retirees' representative of the United Auto Workers union.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Can I just say I appreciated you very much sending this over to me. I just wanted you to know that it has never been formally presented to me.

Mr. Braithwaite: Well, I will present it here. How is that? Okay? I was not going to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: To a slight degree you have embarrassed the Ontario Welfare Council, because they were preparing this report for presentation and I gather they were in the process of circulating it to various bodies for comment and ultimate review and presentation to myself and Mr. Lawrence.

Mr. Braithwaite: It was my understanding that it had been. I did not know that the minister did not have it.

Mr. Trotter: All we are telling you is completely obvious.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am just telling you that it has not been officially presented. I will be happy to engage in some discussion but we just have not had time to review it.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am certain, Mr. Chairman, many of the thoughts that have been brought up by this report have already been discussed in this House year after year, if only by members of the opposition.

In any event, I want to just make a few comments and ask a few questions. If the minister cannot answer, then he cannot, but—

Hon. Mr. Wells: What I was going to say is that a lot of it has to do with my col-

league, the Minister of Health (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence).

Mr. Braithwaite: No, a lot of it has to do with senior citizens and, as I said—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but a lot of the health services for senior citizens come through The Department of Health.

Mr. Braithwaite: In any event, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask some of these questions. If the minister says that he does not want to be bothered or he cannot—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not say I did not want to be bothered with them—

Mr. Braithwaite: Let me ask and then you can proceed.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are sort of rushing the welfare council and wanting me to start commenting on a brief that they have obviously taken a lot of trouble to prepare. They will be coming in to talk to us about it, and I do not want to prejudge on the spur of the moment what they might have spent a lot of time preparing, so that is why we are preparing you for that.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am sorry. I do not think I sent a copy of the report to the minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes; you did.

Mr. Braithwaite: The report itself?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Braithwaite: I think it was the questions. There were some questions.

Mr. Trotter: I think we all got one.

Mr. Braithwaite: You all got one. I think it was sent out to all members, it was not just—

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I did not get one.

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes; I thought it was sent out. Perhaps the minister does not see all of his mail.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I got one attached to a communication from the Liberal caucus.

Mr. Braithwaite: It was sent out to me on May 17, but it was my understanding that it was sent to all members of the House.

Mr. Deans: Yes, I got one.

Mr. Braithwaite: Everybody else seems to have got it.

Mr. Deans: It is green.

Mr. Ben: Yes; I keep it in my office, if my memory serves me correctly.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It was sent to all members of the House.

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes, certainly.

Mr. Trotter: February, 1971.

Mr. Braithwaite: Anyway, I would like, Mr. Chairman, just to quote from page 2 of the report, where it gets to the heart of the problem. The report says:

A representative of the Ontario Dental Association told the committee that all types of dental treatment are available even to the homebound. But there is little evidence that this is generally known by older people.

Since the minister has this in front of him I will just read straight from my notes. Then the committee generalizes on this and other similar matters and comments:

Of great concern is the problem of reaching older people who need assistance but who do not or cannot take the initiative to find it. Such persons have special needs and pose special problems.

I understand that a meeting is being scheduled to discuss the report and I should like to get a little progress in this area on to the public record at this time by asking the minister the following questions. Since the minister has the questions I suppose we could just go down the list and he could tell me his views on them.

First of all, when will the meeting take place and where?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The meeting on this report?

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I could not tell you. As I said there has been no request for a meeting.

Mr. Braithwaite: That is strange.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There has been no request for a meeting at this point.

Mr. Braithwaite: If there was no request and you have no plans for a meeting, then I suppose you cannot tell me what ministers of the Crown will be involved in the discussions.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, as I say, Trevor Pierce, the executive director, phoned us on Friday and said he had not requested a meeting yet. They will be doing so, but they have not asked us.

Mr. Braithwaite: There is something strange here.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know.

Mr. Braithwaite: Perhaps the minister could tell me this, is the province making available informational inserts—I am placing the fourth question, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will be quite happy to have a meeting as soon as it is requested, but we just have not had any requests yet; so I cannot tell you who would be coming.

Mr. Braithwaite: All right. Supposing we went to the next question then. Is the province making available informational inserts with assistance cheques, telling the aged what services are available locally, and other such related news? I am asking about present policy, now.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is informational inserts with the assistance cheques. We have not, as a general practice been putting in inserts with the cheques.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is there any reason why it cannot be done?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, there is no particular reason. As a matter of fact, this is part of the various things I have been reviewing. It would come into the general communications policy. I think there is a need for communicating through bulletins, and so forth, with various members of our public, of which the recipients are one.

We have from time to time prepared special things like that consumer's guide for senior citizens which we put with all the cheques. But, no, at this point in time we do not have a routine insert. You mean like the Bell Telephone Company—

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes, informational.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —that comes in with your friendly bill every month?

Mr. Braithwaite: Then I suppose the minister—

Mr. Deans: Do not leave that for a moment. Is it possible to enter into an agreement with the federal government—

Mr. Braithwaite: That is my next question.

Mr. Deans: I am sorry.

Mr. Braithwaite: Go ahead and ask it if you like.

Mr. Deans: —that all recipients receive an itemized list of the services that would be available to them? Can you enter into those kind of agreements in Ontario with the federal government?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We could certainly approach the federal government and ask them.

Mr. Deans: It can be done.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The point is whether the federal government would want to break down and put different inserts in their cheques for each different province.

Mr. Deans: Either that or a mailing. Could we get a mailing list from them of people we could mail to separately in this province??

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are talking now about a one-time—

Mr. Deans: I am talking basically about reaching the proper people, in other words.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is no problem.

Mr. Deans: There is no point in—

Hon. Mr. Wells: There are two particular things. One is, if you want to send a specific piece of informational material out to tell old people about the services that are available to them—

Mr. Deans: That is what I mean.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —then that is a problem we would have to take a look at to see what would be the best way of doing that. It might be that getting all the list is best. It might be that we could come up with some other way of finding out all the names and sending them out to them.

Mr. Deans: Something along the line of a directory, indicating the services that they can avail themselves of, that are available through the Province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is possible. You mean like our new family benefits guide—

Mr. Deans: Like the new family benefits guide.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —which we have? This is a possibility. The other thing though that Mr. Braithwaite was talking about is something that would go in like the Bell Telephone insert regularly all the time.

Mr. Braithwaite: It would not have to be that regular. The federal one would be, let us say, with the first old age security cheque. You must know when that is going to go out, do you not? There is liaison between your departments. Could there not be co-operation between you at that time?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes; we did make special arrangements with that tax rebate pamphlet. You cannot do it anytime; you have to fit it in at certain times.

Mr. Braithwaite: It is possible there could be co-operation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They mailed that pamphlet out—

Mr. Braithwaite: The next question, Mr. Chairman, is, will disabled persons' transportation allowance be extended to the aged who need such transportation to paramedical and regular medical facilities?

The minister will recall that on Friday the member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. B. Newman) brought to his attention a case of a person on welfare, who required medical treatment and the cost of the transportation—the taxi fare—I think he was discussing with the minister. I am just asking at this point if provision for this sort of transportation for senior citizens is in the plans of the minister? Is there anything?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think I indicated on Friday that at this point in time we did not have any particular plans for special transportation allowance. It is available through the medium of special assistance. But we have no particular plans now. In the light of a brief like this, we will look at all these things. But I also point out that we did make some adjustments for senior citizens of a general nature. The changes were made last week—these coupled with the changes that Ottawa made.

Mr. Braithwaite: The next question, Mr. Chairman, is what progress can the minister report in regard to the provision of health teams in mobile units in areas where medical and paramedical services are not available?

The minister has the research department and the planning department. I presume there is something going on in that regard.

Perhaps the minister could bring us up to date.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I really do not think that is a question I should answer. That is a question the Minister of Health should answer, because, while they may partly be for the elderly, they are for the total community.

Mr. Braithwaite: Is the minister not aware at all of what the plans are?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am aware but I do not think it is my prerogative in these estimates. There is nothing in my estimates that has to do with this particular subject.

Mr. Braithwaite: We are talking about care for the elderly; this is what we are talking about.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know, but you are ranging away from these estimates.

Mr. Braithwaite: But these are estimates.

Mr. Trotter: But they remained unanswered when you were Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They do not remain unanswered.

Mr. Braithwaite: Did not somebody say on Friday that a new window was opening and fresh air was coming into this department?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is, but you are trying to get me to start talking about things that are in The Department of Health estimates, which you had here all last week to consider. These have nothing to do with my estimates.

Mr. Braithwaite: Oh, no, no. I am asking you about senior citizens.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, no, you are not. You asked me about medical services—

Mr. Braithwaite: To senior citizens. Now this is all in the context of health aids to our senior citizens with relation to this report.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have specific responsibilities in certain areas for senior citizens, but not with their direct health needs.

Mr. Trotter: But the committee on aging made most of these recommendations and this was under the control of the Minister of Welfare at that time.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, no. The committee on aging, just like the committee on youth, made recommendations—

Mr. Trotter: That is a select committee; he was our senior minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —that ranged over the whole ambit of government.

Mr. Trotter: The chairman of this committee was on that committee; he will whisper in your ear and tell you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Sure he was and he did a great job. But I really think that you should ask the Minister of Health to comment on the provision of health teams and mobile units in areas where medical and paramedical services—

Mr. Braithwaite: Okay. I am only interested in our senior citizens, since we are sitting on this committee with this department being reviewed.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, it is still Health, but I can tell you that there is a lot being done.

Mr. Braithwaite: I suppose then the minister will not care to make any comment on any plans for quality control programmes as part of Parcost? Just say "yes" or "no" and I will proceed.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It has just got nothing to do with my estimates.

Mr. Braithwaite: But you are the Minister of Social and Family Services and you should know something about these things.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Listen, if I had not been Minister of Health before, I would not have ever been able to talk about this matter in this portfolio. I just happen to know about Parcost because I was there when it came in, but it certainly has nothing to do with these estimates.

Mr. Braithwaite: All right, we will then proceed to the next question. As the minister has said, he did not get this report; he knows nothing. But I should like to go through these just for the record in any event. I did not know that he had not received it or I would not have brought it up.

Mr. Braithwaite: Are there plans to have quality control of hearing aids, dentures, eyeglasses and other such medical aids required by the elderly? Is that specific enough?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Again, it has nothing to do with my department. I understand that insofar as hearing aids are concerned, The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs has matters in hand there now.

Mr. Trotter: For five years now.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As far as eye-glasses—

Mr. Braithwaite: Five years ago, did you say?

Mr. Trotter: Five years ago.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As far as eye-glasses and dentures are concerned, I am not aware of anything that is being done.

Mr. Trotter: Nothing is being done?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, of course, the quality control is exercised in the field of dentures; I do not want to get in the midst of this great argument that is going on at the present time, but I suppose the quality control there is exercised by the dentist.

Mr. Ben: Oh come on.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It has to be! All you have to do is talk to a few people who have got false teeth under the British scheme; they wiggle around and they do not fit.

Mr. Deans: Do not knock Britain.

Mr. Braithwaite: Do not knock Britain; they are having a hard enough time. I have got to jump to the aid of Britain now.

Mr. Trotter: Our dentists have taken the click out of false teeth.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well that is what all my friends tell me.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, please ask the hon. minister to restrain himself. He is exercising me and I am losing my cool, he cannot seem to—

Mr. Braithwaite: He is ranging far and wide in his answers.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, the city of Toronto has been after your department for at least seven years, asking that the provision of dentures be made mandatory.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is another matter; that is not—

Mr. Ben: Never mind! The elderly need dentures more than the young.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Your colleague asked if we had plans to have quality control of dentures, not to provide them.

Mr. Braithwaite: Are you saying it is out of your control?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The dentures can be provided under supplemental or special assistance.

Mr. Ben: Who pays for them under supplemental or special assistance?

Mr. Trotter: The city of Toronto receives no help from the provincial government in that matter.

Mr. Ben: The city of Toronto has been paying for them itself. This is its complaint.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They get 50 per cent of it.

Mr. Trotter: From the federal government?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, through Ottawa.

Mr. Braithwaite: The city of Toronto spends \$2 million on dentures.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know. I indicated that to you the other day. I am not particularly happy about that, but that is the way we do it.

Mr. Ben: Well, can these people who are on welfare get their teeth repaired?

Hon. Mr. Wells: If the municipality pays!

Mr. Ben: If the municipality pays!

Hon. Mr. Wells: All families on family benefits have our dental programme.

Mr. Ben: You are telling me that you pay for people on welfare to have their teeth repaired as distinct from extracted?

Mr. Trotter: They pull teeth and they will not fix them.

Mr. Ben: They pull teeth but since when have they started repairing them?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh no! Family benefits will repair the teeth; they will fill them.

Mr. Ben: Cite me the section of the Act.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The programme of dental care includes examinations, extractions, fillings, x-rays and prophylaxis.

Mr. Braithwaite: Where does repair fall?

Mr. Ben: What is that under; The General Welfare Assistance Act?

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is family benefits, not general welfare. These are people on family benefits.

Mr. Ben: We are talking about people on general welfare.

Mr. Deans: We are talking about the aged.

Mr. Ben: Yes, we were talking about the aged, I know, but these people I referred to turn old waiting to get assistance.

Mr. Deans: I see. I knew there was some way to get that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You see the general criterion is that those on general welfare are not the long-term people and that they will move on if they are a family—

Mr. Ben: In other words, if they want to chew an apple they have got to become long-term people to get some kind of assistance?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, under family benefits we have a dental programme that covers the dental treatments I indicated to you.

Mr. Ben: All I am telling you is this: You would save a lot on your health bill if you gave these people dentures and they could eat that apple a day that keeps the doctor away.

Hon. Mr. Wells: A total of \$94,000 is spent monthly by municipalities on dental care.

Mr. Ben: Municipalities—we know they are spending money; we want to know how much you are spending to help them.

Mr. Trotter: Is that not the programme where the federal government supplies half of it? Your government has nothing to do with that, does it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Trotter: Then you people have nothing to do with it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The federal money can only come through us; it does not go direct.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): You are taking the credit for it.

Mr. Braithwaite: You take the credit—shame on you. You do not want to answer the questions but you take the credit.

Mr. Ruston: What a bunch of characters!

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, before we leave this point—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You will remember we were talking about this on Friday and I said that for some reason in the special assistance

it is different from supplemental. We pay 80 per cent of supplemental and 50 per cent of the special.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, but if you get into a municipality that cannot afford to pay for half the eye-glasses and denture programme or the dental programme that is needed, a municipality just goes without. Even in a wealthier municipality, such as the city of Toronto, which spends \$2 million a year, there is real danger of a cutback programme, of people not getting eye-glasses that are required.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Right. I agree with you.

Mr. Trotter: And this is the weakness. If people know enough to go to the Lions Club or something like that, the Lions will see they get it. But that is a hit-and-miss affair at best, and this is a very weak spot in your whole programme. Do not try to tell us that just because it comes through the province, you budget nothing for eye-glasses and dental care under family benefits. If you did have any type of programme in a municipality or would offer more money, it would encourage them to help those people who require it. Even if you went on the 50-30-20 breakdown, you would do a lot more.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, as I indicated, we recognize there are inconsistencies in these programmes; I do not know why we are stuck with 50 per cent on special assistance and 80 per cent on supplemental.

Mr. Trotter: Because you will not do anything. That is why you are stuck. You make the decisions. You are the government. You should know. We know why. You will not do anything because you do not care what is going on up here; that is why.

Hon. Mr. Wells: What I want to do—and this is the policy of the government—is to work out a new financial deal for the municipalities.

Mr. Trotter: When?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It has got to be a total package, though. We listen to municipalities and they say, for instance, that these are not services that the ratepayers should have levied on their taxes. Okay, so services to people should be paid for by the province. So we say okay, but what should be paid for on municipal tax—services that benefit the property? This government gives 50 per cent allowances to roads, but none of the municipalities want that removed, yet that is a service to property.

What we are in the process of doing now is working on a complete reappraisal of all these unconditional grants and everything, and when we get them all rationalized we will be able to take these things and work them into one programme.

Mr. Trotter: To get a complete package deal will take so many years that you will never do it.

Mr. Deans: Why do you not just have a comprehensive medical care programme and then we would not have all this problem?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We already have a comprehensive medical care programme.

Mr. Deans: Why do you not have a programme that will provide what people need?

Mr. Ben: Nelson put the telescope to his blind eye, and you listen to people crying with a deaf ear.

Mr. Braithwaite: Which one is it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not really. Only when the member is talking.

Mr. Ben: It is when common sense is being spoken that you turn a deaf ear.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Chairman, I was going to go into this in more detail, but since the minister says he already has a comprehensive programme, I am just going to go into the last three questions I have here. These are questions I think the minister should be able to answer and would want to answer.

The 11th question I had to ask was, how far will the government go in implementing recommendation 32 of the select committee on aging, regarding provision under OHSIP of medical devices for the elderly, including as the Ontario Welfare Council now suggests, prosthetic devices? Now, that is recommendation No. 8 of this report and since the minister does not have it I will read it for the record.

The committee supports recommendation 32(a) made by this select committee on ageing.

And 32(a) is as follows:

That whenever any person 60 years of age and over who is receiving assistance under the Ontario Medical Services Insurance Plan is found upon examination at an approved geriatric clinic or, in the event no local geriatric clinic exists, on examination by a qualified medical or dental

practitioner to require prescription drugs, hearing aids, podiatric, dental and optical services, including repairs to dentures and—

Repairs, Mr. Minister, do you get that?

—to dentures and eye-glasses, and where these are not otherwise provided for, the necessary costs to be met under OMSIP or any successor thereof.

The committee would further add that all other necessary prosthetic devices be included in the above.

Now, can the minister say how far his department will go in implementing these recommendations?

Mr. Ben: All the way for—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would have to consider that, I have not had a chance to consider that.

Mr. Braithwaite: Well, when did the report of the select committee on ageing come out?

Mr. Trotter: Five years ago.

Mr. Braithwaite: When did this report come out? Did somebody say five years ago?

Mr. Braithwaite: What do you mean? Has your department done no planning on this?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have done a lot for the senior citizens and—

Mr. Braithwaite: No, I am asking you a specific question. Does the minister say he is not able to answer this particular question, even though it refers to a report that came out five years ago?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am just saying, as an answer, how it would apply. Now perhaps some of those things are even done.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am asking you how far you will go.

Mr. Trotter: This is 1971.

Mr. Braithwaite: How could it be? How far could—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You see, I think the problem that we have is that you cannot really take a thing like that and break it off and just have it for the aged. I mean, the people who are 58 are going to say, "Why should only someone over 60 have those services?"

Mr. Braithwaite: That is no reason for doing nothing.

Mr. Ben: Oh, come on. You listen to the people's crying with a deaf ear.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not saying it is a reason for doing nothing, but I think that it is—

Mr. Braithwaite: You are like Pontius Pilate, you are washing your hands.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —it is there. It is something that will have to be considered. As the health insurance plan is expanded, those various things will be taken in.

As far as the availability of them to the needy is concerned, we have supplementary aid and we have special assistance and that is what they are there for, and they are being used.

Mr. Braithwaite: I do not consider this the answer, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Chairman, can I comment further on supplementary aid here, now, just to carry on?

The whole problem with most of the supplementary and assistance programmes is that they are administered differently in different areas of the province. There are communities in this province where there is no assistance available whatsoever under either of those programmes.

I think that last year in these same estimates I brought out this with regard to the area I live in, and this year the district welfare board in that area, has had to curtail all their expenditures except for prescribed drugs. So the people in that area, who are taxpayers in this province just like everybody else, are not provided with any of those services under both those programmes.

The reason for that is that these programmes are not mandatory. I believe that you have to move to make both those programmes mandatory and provide for those on Social and Family Services through Social and Family Services, and not through the general welfare assistance.

The minister might say he had not had a chance to look at this—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I said that exactly what you said now, is what I hoped we could move to.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but that is what the previous minister said last year, and that is what he said the year before. We go into Health this year and he says the same thing. He says, "I would like to move ahead in

those areas." And that is what you said when you were in Health last year. If you people keep shuffling around we are not going to get anywhere.

Mr. Ruston: Blame it on the guy who was there before. Each one is as bad as the one who was there before.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I presume that this is the reason for shuffling around.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It might get as bad as Ottawa.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I should think that you should look at it, particularly in the district health units where, because of the way they are set up, they are in financial difficulties from the day they are established, most of them.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The district health units?

Mr. R. S. Smith: The district welfare boards, I am sorry. The district health units work much better than the welfare boards.

But I think you should look at those and specifically the ones that are set up outside those areas where they have the large municipalities, because their tax base just is not there to provide money for the welfare recipients. The people in that area are, in some cases, receiving welfare allowances 20 to 30 per cent below what a person in the same circumstances would receive in other municipalities.

I think you have the overall responsibility for the province to make sure that everybody is treated the same way, and if you are just going to continue to say, "We are going to look at that again," it is just getting to the point where people are not going to believe you any more. It is as simple as that.

Mr. Ben: You mean you believe him now?

Mr. Trotter: There is a credibility gap there.

Mr. Braithwaite: I want to endorse what the member for Nipissing has just said, because I was going to comment on recommendation No. 9 of this report, and I was going to ask the minister if he would explain the significance of the comment regarding permissive and mandatory aid in respect of provincial contributions for the purpose of direction. Mr. Smith has put it quite succinctly. Do I understand from what the minister has said that he recognizes the difference? What actual

steps is he or his department going to take to eliminate this difference?

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I indicated, I think that the ultimate solution to this, instead of having supplementary aid, for instance, for family benefits assistance people and the old age pensioners, would be to have that programme administered, not municipally but provincially, as a supplemental of the regular programme, by our own field officers. Now, there would still have to be available some type of special assistance or supplementary assistance for the general welfare recipients who would remain to be administered at the municipal level. I do not know whether you think—I really cannot tell you whether or not I would make that mandatory at this point in time.

Mr. Braithwaite: There is no sense in me asking you when, then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No. I should tell you there is nothing in the estimates for this year which we are voting on that will make that change. That is, what we are voting upon at the moment.

Mr. R. S. Smith: In other words, you are not going to do anything this year?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but then do not forget I had nothing to do with the formation of these estimates.

Mr. Braithwaite: You could tell us what you might be planning for next year? This is what we are trying to find out.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is what I am telling you.

Mr. Braithwaite: You mean next year then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am telling you that my—

Mr. Trotter: Liberal policy supports supplementary estimates, if you are interested.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —my philosophy—

Mr. Ben: Try to do a good job; it is your last estimates.

Mr. Ferrier: He is a real dreamer.

Mr. Braithwaite: The last question I have, Mr. Chairman, is this. The minister already has commented on the possibility of building the senior citizens' complexes close to places where health and medical assistance is provided or can be found. What I would like to know is, can the minister tell us what amend-

ments are necessary to existing legislation to make possible the implementation of recommendations 10 and 11 of the OWC report in respect of (a) integrated diagnostic and treatment centres and (b) integrated day centres for the aged. What are the roadblocks in the present Elderly Persons Centres Act, 1966? Mr. Crawford is here somewhere. Perhaps he might want to answer.

Hon. Mr. Wells: What recommendations are these out of?

Mr. Braithwaite: For the record, the recommendation No. 10, Mr. Chairman, is that the provincial government encourage the development of local health service centres which embrace an integrated complex of diagnostic and treatment services by making special funds available.

The 11th recommendation is that the provincial government give further encouragement to the development of multipurpose senior citizens' centres by revising the operating grants available under The Elderly Persons Centres Act, 1966, so that means are provided for the high quality of integrated services as envisaged by recommendation 41a, page 16, of the select committee on ageing. And 41a, shortly, says that a variety of day centres for the aged be developed throughout the province providing daycare, recreation activities, counselling, noon meals at cost, and related services. As I said, I am asking the minister what amendments are necessary to existing legislation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: First of all, that last recommendation, I would say, to a great degree, parallels our elderly persons' centres. We have amended the recommendations and I think we are moving ahead quite well with the elderly persons' centres. These are day care centres giving the people a chance to come into a place where they can have drop-in centres of their own. Meals are somehow prepared there and these are operating. We have just changed the financing of these to make it more attractive (a) for their establishment and (b) for their on-going operation. These are going ahead.

Mr. Braithwaite: Based on that statement—before we get into anything else, before the minister continues perhaps—if he recalls it, the original part of my question was what are the roadblocks? Based on the experience you have had with The Elderly Persons Centres Act, 1966, are there any roadblocks to be overcome, or is there any amendment?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The only roadblocks, of course, are money. People would like more and more money but, as I say, we have even changed that in the last year and we have upped the amounts that are available both in operating costs and in capital costs. The only one refinement that I see that we are probably going to make is to remedy the legislation, if I can recall it correctly, so that we can make grants even if the municipality does not give a matching grant. Some of the present regulations call for municipalities to give a grant in order to be eligible for our grant.

Mr. R. S. Smith: That is the capital grant?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, operating grants, an operating grant each year. In order to qualify for us to give them a grant, the municipality had to give them a grant also. We do not feel that it should necessarily be incumbent upon them to be supported by the municipality in order to get our grant.

Mr. Ben: Oh, come on, I have got all your regulations here. I was going to raise this business about The Elderly Persons Centres Act because I think you have been real miserly in this regard. You talk about what you are doing. To begin with the figure in the present estimates is the magnificent sum of \$150,000. That is what you are asking for the whole Province of Ontario. That represents 30 per cent of the cost, because you put up 30 per cent if the municipality puts up 20 per cent. Then the corporation that is putting up the elderly persons centre must somehow raise the other 50 per cent, which means that for the whole of the Province of Ontario it is anticipated that only \$450,000 toward the construction of elderly persons centres will be expended. Those are capital costs for the whole of the Province of Ontario. I question whether you could put up one decent centre for elderly persons for \$450,000.

Hon. Mr. Wells: These are not put up as buildings.

Mr. Ben: Just a second, under The Elderly Persons Centres Act 1966, the province will contribute up to 30 per cent of the capital construction cost or the capital renovation cost—

Hon. Mr. Wells: A lot of them are renovated.

Mr. Ben: —or alteration cost, if the municipality in which this centre is going to go

up or be altered or renovated will put up 20 per cent. Now if \$150,000 is 30 per cent then that means that 100 per cent at least if my calculations are correct—is \$500,000. Then when it comes to maintenance, although the Act speaks of being able to make grants for maintenance, you in effect call them special grants, and those are limited to a maximum of \$5,000 a year.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That was changed to \$15,000.

Mr. Ben: I'm sorry, but the regulations which were brought to me by your department on Thursday are not up to date. At least, that is a step forward. But the regulations I have here are the latest ones that were given to me and they still have it as \$5,000.

Mr. Braithwaite: Might I add, just to finish the question that the minister was answering, what amendments are necessary to existing legislation to make possible the local health services centres and the complex of diagnostic and treatment centres that the minister referred to earlier? He said he was in favour of this. Just what amendments are necessary?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have no grants, or there are no provisions in our estimate to establish health service centres.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am talking about next year. You did not make up these estimates.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know. I would not have any next year because our department is not in the business of building health service centres. That is The Department of Health, or the private groups, or the Hospital Services Commission, but it is not in our department.

Mr. Braithwaite: So as far as this department is concerned, even though we are talking about health care and diagnostic treatment and centres for the senior citizens—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You got off on this tangent.

Mr. Braithwaite: Now, wait a minute. Let me finish. As far as this is concerned, you say that your department is not going to provide any funds for that area of treatment for senior citizens, is this what you are telling me? It is somebody else's department?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Right.

Mr. Braithwaite: And that your department is not concerned about it at all?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are concerned about it from the point—

Mr. Braithwaite: Then why are you not doing something about it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Now listen, you are a smart lawyer. You understand that there is money in different votes for different purposes and the money for health clinics is not in the votes of my department.

Mr. Braithwaite: I understand only one thing. We have a new minister, as I say, bringing in a fresh breath of summer here. Why is he not thinking of these things? Why is he saying it is somebody else's responsibility? Why do you not grab the horns and do it yourself?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Because I know where—

Mr. Braithwaite: Are you afraid of the Minister of Health?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I know where the things properly belong.

Mr. Braithwaite: There is no "properly." You have just finished saying that they are all interrelated and so on.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They are all interrelated but the money for various things belongs in different estimates. Let me tell you this, that I think we will be developing in this province some examples of integrated services which will be better than any on this continent. I have gone around in the short months I have been minister and seen some of the things in other jurisdictions, and they do not even have the kind of things that we have here already. We are now looking, for instance, in the city of Toronto at a complete geriatric complex where all these things will be on the same campus, hopefully.

Mr. Ben: You had better speak to the Minister of Health; he does not see eye to eye with you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, what I am saying is that these facilities, the health facilities if they are there—which is a chronic hospital—and if there is a health facility, it will be supported by their operation. I suppose I should say there is one exception to that and that exception is our geriatric study centre which is a medical facility for the elderly, which is used as a research and

study centre. In so doing, it provides medical care for the elderly. That is located at Lambert Lodge. Our hope is that in the redevelopment of Lambert Lodge, we will see developed there a geriatric centre that has the facilities on one campus for this whole gamut.

Mr. Trotter: Is Lambert Lodge a typical example of what goes on in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, Lambert Lodge is one of the poorer examples of what goes on in Ontario.

Mr. Trotter: Thank you. That is nice to hear.

Hon. Mr. Wells: If you want to see one of the examples, go out and look at Unionville and Shepherd Lodge and homes all over the province.

Mr. Braithwaite: So now you have plans? How soon can we expect some of these things to come to fruition?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Are you talking about this campus concept?

Mr. Braithwaite: The grand plans you are telling us about.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are working on this very actively at the present time.

Mr. Braithwaite: How soon?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Very actively at the present time.

Mr. Braithwaite: That does not say I asked, how soon?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot put dates on it. I would never put a date on it.

Mr. Braithwaite: You are the new minister. How soon are you going to drive for it? How soon are you going to set your own targets, so that you are going to go into the Treasury and say, "I want it"? How soon is it going to be? I would like to know.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will have something really concrete to show you by the time I present the estimates here next year.

Mr. Braithwaite: There is some talk that you may not be here next year. Let us just find out how soon you can tell us.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is talk down there, not up here. I will be here presenting these estimates, and there will be something going on in these areas.

Mr. Braithwaite: If nothing else, I have to say the minister is confident. But somebody has been misleading you; you had better hurry up and get these things done, because I am telling you, when the new wave comes you are going to have trouble.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The new wave is here and it has passed over.

Mr. Braithwaite: Oh, come on, it is just an ebb. Look at Ontario Place, it is just an ebb. Seventy thousand people have not visited there yet.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is still one of the greatest things that has ever happened to this city.

Mr. Braithwaite: I was going to ask you a few more questions on this report but you say you have not got it.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Braithwaite: Will you let me finish, please?

Mr. Chairman: Please try to finish it.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am going to stop. That is quite all right. The hon member can have the floor.

Mr. Ben: On these elderly persons' centres, I do not know why, Mr. Minister, you are trying to make it appear more than it is. To the best of my knowledge, according to your latest figures that have been published, you have only 13 such centres in the whole of the Province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Twenty-two.

Mr. Ben: Well, all right. Here again, I said published.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You had better get a new researcher.

Mr. Ben: Well, I am sorry. I have got these, centres operated by approved organizations—13 of them. Schedule 1: Approved organization operating centres. It adds up to only 13. Baycrest daycare centre, which to my way of thinking is not a true daycare centre, because it is part of the complex of the Baycrest geriatric hospital, in North York. And while we are discussing Baycrest—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but we consider that as a good viable way to have an elderly persons' centre. It does not necessarily have to be by itself; if it can be part of a complex like that, it is a good idea.

Mr. Ben: Fine.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is good for the people who are there.

Mr. Ben: We suggested to the Minister of Health that when his estimates are up he should construct a geriatric centre, modelled more or less on the one in Regina, which would deal with the study of ageing. At the present time, you do not have a geriatric centre. Do not discuss Lambert Lodge. Lambert Lodge used to be in my riding, or rather, the riding I used to represent.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Our geriatric study centre is a geriatric centre that is focusing on the problems of the aged.

Mr. Ben: I am trying to tell you Lambert Lodge is in what used to be the riding I represented—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not talking about Lambert Lodge; I am talking about the geriatric centre that may happen to be housed in Lambert Lodge.

Mr. Ben: Oh, but this is something in the future. I am trying to tell you that the point of view of the Minister of Health was that you should not set up—at least he did not want to set up—special geriatric centres; that he wanted them in connection with places like Baycrest hospital for the aged. But there again, it is basically a place for senior citizens.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not follow you on that one.

Mr. Ben: I think they created a so-called daycare centre in there as a means of getting more money out of this miserly government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Listen, I do not follow you on that, that they did not want separate geriatric centres. They wanted them constructed as part of centres like the Baycrest.

Mr. Ben: That is right, that is what they said.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but there is no difference between the Baycrest complex with the geriatric centre there than there is from Lambert Lodge with the geriatric centre there.

Mr. Ben: There is a world of difference between Baycrest centre as it exists today and Lambert Lodge as it exists today.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Lambert Lodge reconstructed.

Mr. Ben: Reconstructed. Well, now you are saying that the pie in the sky is going to taste delicious, especially if you put a piece of cheese on it. But I will wait until I get the pie on a plate.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are committed to doing something at Lambert Lodge.

Mr. Ben: You people are committed to carry out most of the things that we have suggested to you as being in the best interests of the people of this province. Unfortunately, it is, as you say, in the fullness of time.

In Metro Toronto—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Quicker than that.

Mr. Ben: —we have four of these centres. The Toronto Avenue Road Lions Club, which I believe was the first. The St. Christopher's House, which is a real recreation centre for young and old on Wales Avenue off Dundas. The Second Mile Club, which is, I imagine, a true recreation centre for the elderly. If my memory serves me correctly, it is on Sherbourne Street, is it not?

Mr. L. Crawford (Homes for the Aged Branch and Office on Ageing): It is in a house on Carlton Street.

Mr. Ben: On Carlton Street now, is it? When I attended some of their functions, it was in a church basement. Maybe that is just where they carried on their functions. And the Baycrest. So in Metro Toronto we have only four centres, unless there are some that have been—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Did you mention WoodGreen?

Mr. Ben: WoodGreen was set up as the WoodGreen community recreation centre—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, but it is—

Mr. Ben: —it was not designed especially for the elderly.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but it is operating as an elderly persons' centre and it gets grants.

Mr. Ben: Certainly it may get grants but it was not designed as a centre for the elderly. I am thinking in terms of centres that were specifically designed—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but do you accept that we have to build a separate building in a separate centre? WoodGreen has set up an elderly persons' centre. They are using the

facilities there. It is a good operating elderly persons' centre with a good—

Mr. Ben: It is not a good operating elderly persons' centre; it is a community centre wherein they have devoted a room or two for the elderly to play cards and do their crocheting.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, you are wrong.

Mr. Ben: That to me is wrong. An elderly persons' centre must be geared exclusively to the interests of the elderly. Tell me, do they happen to have electrically operated jewellers' lathes there, for example, so that the men who retire from crafts could make things? Do they have lathes there? Do they have a carpentry shop there for the senior citizens, such as power tools, anything like that? Do they have a lot of Singer sewing machines so the women could operate them and keep their interest in sewing?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not think that is the kind of thing that you have in an elderly persons' centre.

Mr. Ben: Oh, that is what you should have. When I was on council, I said what they have now is nothing but glorified pool halls, they do not even give them a pool.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That type of expensive equipment—

Mr. Ben: Do you think they are third-class citizens? Because you give them a room in there and once a month you throw a card party or a square dance, you call that a community centre, a recreation centre for the elderly?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That type of equipment is available to them in the schools in the community, where they can use it.

Mr. Ben: Is it? Well, you name me one school in this city where they can go and practise a hobby in a technical school. Name me one.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All the secondary schools in Scarborough.

Mr. Ben: They can go there as a hobby and not as part of a course?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, it is a hobby course—

Mr. Ben: Yes, well, answer my question. Can they go any time they desire in the evenings and do what they want to do other than as part of a course?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They all like it. The thing is lightly structured as a course, but it is still a hobby.

Mr. Ben: Well, tell me, since you reside in Scarborough and since you are the Minister of Social and Family Services, and you are responsible for the community and recreation centres for the elderly, how come there is not one of those centres in Scarborough?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No one has applied to start one up.

Mr. Ben: I imagine why you do not apply for \$150,000—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are just so wrong about the WoodGreen Community Centre one because I have been down there and they have one of the most highly organized programmes—

Mr. Ben: It is a community centre.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, no. They have a part-time director of senior citizens' activities and they have a complete programme for the whole community, they have a total programme of involvement for their area of the elderly.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. Ben: Wait a minute. Do you mind telling me why you do not have it either on schedule 1 or schedule 2?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Do not have what?

Mr. Ben: Why do you not have WoodGreen Community Centre listed on either schedule 1 or schedule 2, either on centres operated by approved organizations or approved organizations operating centres?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is not up to date, that one.

Mr. Ben: Well, for goodness' sakes, I asked your secretary when these estimates started to go to get me the up-to-date consolidation of the Act and regulations and I have a whole folder of all the relevant Acts; now you have the audacity to tell me this is not up to date when I just got it on Thursday?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know where you got it from; I am sorry, but if you had asked the minister's office, you would have—

Mr. Ben: Well, I got it from the minister's office.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You said you got it from the secretary.

Mr. Ben: That handsome-looking guy who is walking over to the other end to find an excuse.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, they must have an old one out for you. We will get you—

Mr. Ben: If that is the way you treat the opposition, that is scandalous. You will not even give us up-to-date regulations.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We were afraid you were going to read it all, so we gave you the abridged version. What would you like to know?

Mr. Ben: Well, just give me an up-to-date list. By the way, why do your officials keep it hidden?

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): It is very important.

Mr. Spence: You get to know too much.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will get you a list.

Mr. Ben: Will it be up to date?

Mr. R. S. Smith: To 1969!

Mr. Ben: Now, Mr. Minister, while we are on this business, you mentioned Lambert Lodge. When do you anticipate the structure is going to be completed?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot tell you when it is going to be completed.

Mr. Ben: When is it going to be started?

Hon. Mr. Wells: All I can tell you is that we are carrying on talks with them now. Lambert Lodge is owned, as you know, by the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto; they have to take the initiative to get going. I have already had meetings with the architect. We have met with the council; they are pushing ahead, and as soon as we can all get the final site plans laid out—

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, I was elected to this House on September 15, 1965. On the night that I was elected, I was asked on the radio what the first thing was that I wanted to do once I got to Queen's Park, and I said to replace Lambert Lodge. That was on the evening of September 15, 1965. Since that time I have been pushing everybody in this department, and your predecessor—it is now in his riding; before it used to be in my riding—he came out with a statement that

they are going to replace Lambert Lodge with a new modern up-to-date residence for the elderly; it is going to have all the facilities. Every day I have been waiting to see the announcement of the first shovel going into the ground or something else like that, so I could just go there and gloat for a minute, thinking that something was being done anyway and you cannot even give me a date when you are going to start it. You are telling me again talks have been going on. Talks have been going on, Mr. Minister, since the First World War when that place used to be the National Cash Register Company. They stopped using it as a hospital for our veterans because they thought it was not dignified to put the people who had fought to preserve this country into such deplorable surroundings. And I think it is about since 1943 or 1944 you have kept our senior citizens in there in a building that was out of date 50 years ago. And now you tell me you are still having talks. I think about the only thing you guys are talking about are the jokes in Playboy. You are certainly not talking about replacing that institution.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Come on now, you know—

Mr. Ben: Good grief, you know, you have got the gall to tell me that you do not know when it is starting, when your predecessor makes an announcement that they are going to replace Lambert Lodge.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is a joint proposition and the municipality in Metropolitan Toronto and ourselves will be entering into the thing together.

Mr. Ben: Then why did your predecessor make a public announcement that they were going to do something about Lambert Lodge? Did the present Prime Minister (Mr. Davis) cross him up? Did your predecessor think there was going to be an immediate election and he figured he would make a promise to those people?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is not what you asked me. You asked me when was it going to start.

Mr. Ben: That is right. When is it going to start?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is going to start. I just cannot tell you when.

Mr. Ben: Well, why do you not ask all those sages that are sitting next to you?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Look at your colleagues. They did not believe us when we told them

that the Ontario Hospital would be started but it is started and it is going to be built and it is there and we did it.

Mr. Trotter: Do not use that as an example. It has just dragged on and on and on.

Hon. Mr. Wells: But who did it? And all you fellows, you drag on and you talk. Queen Street has been replaced, Mercer has been replaced and Lambert Lodge is—

Mr. Ben: Trying to get facts or the truth out of you people is like trying to knock your opponent in a shadow boxing match.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. Ben: I have not finished.

Mr. Spence: I am going to change the subject. I would like to discuss husbands deserting their wives and families.

Mr. Ben: Are you in favour of it?

Mr. Spence: I am against it and we find a lot of people in the province very concerned about this, where the husband goes to another part of the province and disappears and then the mother and the family have to go on mother's allowance. I would like to know your policy, Mr. Minister, in regard to this. What action do you take if you find or locate the husband, bring him back to court, does he have to pay this back money that your department has paid to the mother and family for mother's allowance, or what action do you take? And could the minister inform me how many cases have you solved this year, this past year?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I think that I will give you my general philosophy and then I will let Mr. McKnight answer you in specifics on it. My philosophy is that our department should be making some effort to find the deserted husbands and to attempt in some way to gain back from them the money that has been—

Mr. Spence: You are not doing anything up until now, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, yes, we are. I will have Mr. McKnight give you some details. I am just sketching out for you the general philosophy. Now, I think that we are talking about husbands who are not readily available. There are of course wives who get orders against their husband for support, for instance, who know exactly where their husband is and he still does not pay the

support. Now, I think that we should be moving even further in that area, that perhaps we should move to the point where once the court order is made the court should pay the money and then the court should get that money from the husband. You know, I think the Attorney General is looking at some of these kinds of proposals too.

Mr. Spence: It is becoming very alarming to a lot of people in the province.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, sure it is. Now, Mr. McKnight, do you want to make some comments on this generally? Mr. McKnight is director of the family benefits branch.

Mr. J. E. McKnight (Family Benefits Branch): Well, Mr. Chairman, we have taken the approach generally that a woman who is deserted should, all things being equal and I say that in a qualified manner, approach the court, probably under The Deserted Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act. Having done that and obtained an order, she is then in a position whereby she can assign the money so awarded to the department. In that manner then we pay the full budgetary requirement by way of allowance from the province and then collect back from the court that amount which is paid in. In this manner then we assure her a regular uninterrupted monthly income even if there is default on his part.

Now, if he does default, we can take the position that she should go back to court on a show-cause action and we may take that position, depending on the information which is available to us. Sometimes we have information to the effect that he is not in a position to pay and we would defer any such action. On a limited basis, we are able to take that action ourselves and have done so on occasion but that has been mostly in an experimental sense.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Minister, may I say to Mr. McKnight, instead of having the wife go to the courts, which she is sometimes fearful of doing, would it not be better for The Department of Social and Family Services to bring this man to court instead of the wife, because she is in fear that there might be reprisals on her or upon him if he returns? There is a fear that does develop there and I think it would be better if Social and Family Services took the action instead of the wife. This would—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, well that is what we are suggesting, and we have done this on

a limited basis and mostly on an experimental basis and it has indeed worked fairly well, has it not Mr. McKnight?

Mr. McKnight: Mr. Chairman, there are different schools of thought on this subject and I would be very reluctant, if I was satisfied that there were good grounds to insist or even make any attempt to go back to court, if there was a threat of violence or something like that which could be substantiated. But I think that there is a certain responsibility that lies with the recipient here, and as a general rule I would not find from experience that this was the problem that it is made out to be.

Mr. Deans: Have you done a study on the numbers of cases that are actually involved in regard to the husband deserting the wife and family? How many of these are we dealing with in the Province of Ontario?

How many of these have actually gone to court to acquire a maintenance and separation order, and how many of these have you been forced to go back into court for after you have received an assignment from the wife? Can you give me those figures or do you have them?

Mr. McKnight: I could not recall the figures offhand, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Deans: Are they substantial?

Mr. McKnight: Yes, they are substantial.

Mr. Deans: In the first instance are we talking about a substantial number of deserting husbands?

Mr. McKnight: Yes—well, maybe you would like to define the word “substantial.”

Mr. Deans: In proportion to the numbers of people receiving general welfare, or receiving welfare other than for specific purposes, what percentage of the total amounts of money are we talking about in terms of what we spend to maintain deserted wives and families?

Mr. Ben: How many did you say, Mr. Minister, were you whispering a figure?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was trying to think. It runs in my mind it was about 6,000 or 7,000 or 11,000.

Mr. Ben: Oh good grief, the city of Toronto handles about 30,000 cases a year—Metropolitan Toronto, I should have said.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, but I am talking about those who are on our allowance.

Mr. Deans: We are talking about those who receive benefits.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Because you see—

Mr. Deans: Let us assume for a moment we are talking about 11,000 husbands, is this what we are talking about? Or 11,000 families.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You see, I recall—

Mr. Ben: Referring to Mr. Deans—apropos of what he is saying—Mr. Band, when he was heading up his department, published a little booklet on the activities of your special squad for tracing down miscreant husbands who had deserted their wives and against whom an order had been made. He gave a report on how many they had located, how many they had brought back to court, how many they persuaded to go back to their wives, how many they had persuaded to pay up their arrears.

Have you not got an up-to-date report now?

Mr. McKnight: Mr. Chairman, I have some figures here on the number of deserted women, and this is a March 31 figure—11,303. But I do not have an analysis.

Mr. Ben: Those that are receiving family allowances?

Mr. McKnight: Family benefit allowances.

Mr. Deans: How many of those have assigned to the department the responsibility of collecting the necessary maintenance—the maintenance that has been assigned by court?

Mr. McKnight: I would say the majority, where there has been an award by the court.

Mr. Deans: It would have to be all of them.

Mr. McKnight: I might qualify that, Mr. Chairman. It should be understood that in a great many instances the whereabouts of the husband are not known and in those situations the court cannot make an order, so we immediately eliminate a fair number of those cases.

Mr. Spence: I would like to know what efforts are made to locate the husband.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is the point. Are we still, as Mr. Ben has stated, in an organized manner following up to locate the husbands

or are we just doing it in an unorganized manner?

Mr. W. G. Smith: We had, I think, 6,600 cases referred for investigation last year and I believe there was something over 2,200 who were actually located. The service we provide is simply to find the husband—to locate him and pass the information on to the family benefits branch.

Mr. Deans: How do you do this? What procedures do you use in the location of these husbands? Are you doing it through police or simply by an organization within the department?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We cannot give away our secrets in case any of you fellows have to be traced.

Mr. Deans: I am trying to find out. I never know when I might need this.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Do you have any more comments?

Mr. W. G. Smith: I think we use all of the facilities that are available for the location of anyone who is missing. Their driver's licence and this kind of thing is an example.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): What do you do with the ones you do find and who still do not pay?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Smith and his field staff merely locate them, and once they get the information—"Mr. So-and-So is living at 35 Oak Street—"

Mr. Deans: How many are in the field doing this work?

Mr. W. G. Smith: We use all of the field staff across the province as required for this purpose. Then we have a central staff of about six or eight persons working on it.

Mr. Trotter: Does it not cost more to locate them than what money you get out of them?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I think the experience so far has been that taking the two methods—locating them and going back to get the money—that more money is obtained that way, and probably in a better manner, than asking the women to go back to court and have the court then get a show-cause order and so forth.

But as I say, the ultimate solution probably is to arrange a new method whereby the court takes over and the Attorney General's

department takes over the whole process. And once an order is obtained the money then is paid from the court and the court takes the responsibility for making—

Mr. A. W. Downer (Dufferin-Simcoe): Why can it not be a continuing order? At the present moment the wife has to go back to the court if he defaults. Why can it not be a continuing order so that the court would continue to collect or institute charges?

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is what we are talking about.

Mr. Downer: I know, that is why I want to know.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you made any improvements? I can remember when I went on the local council back in 1955 and worked from there to deputy reeve of the township of Bertie. I was chairman of the welfare committee at different stages in the township and I can well remember the phrase that the hon. member for Kent has mentioned here.

I remember one afternoon coming in and sitting down with the clerk and there happened to be a lady outside in the clerk's office waiting to be interviewed for welfare. I sat there as the clerk interviewed her. He asked her how many children she had. She said eight or nine children at different age levels. He asked, "Where is your husband?" "He is not living with me." So the clerk said, "How do you account for this youngster being only three or four months old?" She said, "Well, he comes back once a year to apologize."

You may laugh at this, but this is a game that is being played by a certain group of persons on welfare today. I found this out not too long ago on questioning the regional administrator in Welland, Mr. Don Callen.

I had a chap call me up over the weekend; it was on a Friday afternoon. They usually call you on a Friday afternoon. I think every member goes through this. They want welfare right off the bat and you cannot get hold of anybody.

I got hold of the administrator, and on checking up on this person I found out that he had shipped in from Simcoe. Welfare had paid him a certain amount of money; the Children's Aid Society had paid him a certain amount of money—that was on the Thursday. It was on the Friday that he called me. He had received about \$120 and already he was requesting more assistance.

On the following Monday, the welfare administrator told me, "His problem is that he has three women." I found out that his wife was living up around Simcoe. He had another woman someplace else with two or three children. And he had two youngsters here—about two years and six months.

So he said to me—he also contacted the member for Welland, Mr. Morningstar—but this is what he said to me: "If you do not do anything I am going to the press about it." I said, "Fine, we will go to the press about it and we will find out what the problem is."

But this is the game that they are playing. And I think it is time that we, as members here, should be cracking the whip. This nonsense has to be stopped. This business of common law.

Mr. Ben: He just believes Ontario is the place to grow.

Mr. Haggerty: You think of the number of children that are born in this type of living and these are children that are suffering by it. It is not the persons involved—the parents or foster-parents, or whatever you want to call them—but it is the children that suffer by this. And this is where we are not reaching them.

One of the things that is lacking—particularly in Welland county or in the Niagara region—is family counselling. Many of these persons are led astray, but I think many of them can come back through family counselling. I know we do have perhaps some more advantages in this particular area—in the Niagara Peninsula—than in other areas, and nursing home care, retarded children's residence and homes for the senior citizens. We are well pleased with the assistance we have received from your department and your branch. I speak highly of Mr. Crawford sitting here. He has done so much in our area, providing you go to him and ask for assistance to have a municipality participate in it, and we have done this in our area. This gets back to the member for Humber who was talking about this overbuilding here. I think as soon as the local municipalities participate in a programme, your department will come through. You have in my area.

An hon. member: All over.

Mr. Ben: The member for Welland South comes from a fruitful area.

An hon. member: No, all over. It is all over.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence, are you finished?

Mr. Spence: I hope the minister takes some action, because I believe that people are concerned now.

An hon. member: We are concerned.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Spence says he is finished. I have been waiting until he is finished, because I am the next speaker and I want to dwell on this particular subject.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, may I continue to go back now?

Mr. Ben: These are ghettos.

Mr. Haggerty: I just want to carry through with what Mr. Spence has said. I just wanted to know what the department was doing in these ghettos in every municipality in the Province of Ontario. How do you reach these persons that are on welfare?

Mr. Ben: It has nothing to do with this topic.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh yes, it follows on Mr. Spence.

Mr. Haggerty: How are you reaching them?

An hon. member: Reach who?

Mr. Haggerty: In our area, we call them "Coconut Grove," or "Palm Beach" or something like that.

Mr. Ben: I take objection to him, Mr. Chairman. He may be a colleague, but the fact is we are off the subject. We too have been waiting here for four hours.

Mr. Downer: That is right.

Mr. Chairman: He is the third after Mr. Ben.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, I have only half an hour, which means I will only be able to get started. But, for the benefit of Mr. Downer there, I have been embroiled in a lot of controversy about our family courts and our welfare system; I have some working knowledge of it. I remember when Mr. Band published his first report on the results they had at that particular time; if my memory serves me correctly, out of all the deserting husbands they had located, they were only able to effect reconciliation in 19 instances—this was out of quite a fantastic number. One of the

things that this search-and-locate service does not do is to reconcile very many. But what was deplorable at the time and still is about this search-and-locate system is the fact that it only deals with those husbands whose wives are receiving either general welfare assistance or family allowance.

At the time I was dealing with this particular topic, when I was on city council during 1963-1964, it concerned those wives who were receiving general welfare assistance. I kept asking at that time, and I still ask now, why should you restrict yourself to locating only those people whose wives are on family assistance or general welfare assistance? Because in fact they form a very small number of women who have received judgements against their deserting husbands and who are not receiving any support.

As I said before, I think the Metropolitan Toronto family court handles some 36,000 referrals to such cases a year. All of those do not have judgements entered against them, but if you take the docket for any given day there are about 90 cases and the majority of them are for what we call show-cause summonses. For those people who are not in law, that is short for, "Show cause why you should not be held in contempt of court for having failed to comply with an order of the court—husbands who do not pay their judgement."

Some of these women keep coming back and coming back. In many instances it is because the husbands have not been served. Just last weekend I was discussing this very topic with the deputy chief of police for the city of Toronto—somebody else happened to complain about a friend of theirs who could not get a summons served on a husband—and it transpired that when the police department receives a summons from the family court, they go through the regular procedure. It takes about eight days to process it and the policeman makes three visits to where it is expected the deserting husband to be. If they cannot locate him after those three trips, they put the summons in with about 150,000 dormant summonses that they have not been able to serve. There is no active effort on the part of the police department to pursue these summonses, no more so than there is for many other summonses that pass through their hands.

Every time a citizen is apprehended for some improper act they will search the summons office to see if there are any outstanding summons. But there is not a concrete active programme for locating these husbands.

Furthermore, we find out that the wives do not want to lay a charge against the husbands—and you will be interested in this—for a number of reasons. Firstly, the husband may be an absolute cad and bounder and her attitude is: Good riddance to bad rubbish. The last thing in the world she wants to see or she wants her children to see is that bum turning up in court or anywhere else.

Secondly, a lot of women were not necessarily the innocent party in this desertion but, because they are on welfare, the welfare people compel them to sign a subrogation or to issue a complaint of desertion in the family court. And I tell you there has been more than one indignant husband brought up there charged with desertion and the case has been thrown right out the door because he was not the one at fault; it was the wife that deserted.

Thirdly, it is quite conceivable that the wife, although she may have been the innocent party in this desertion, has in the interval taken on a liaison with somebody else and it would be embarrassing to her to have her husband return to the scene of her activities.

Fourthly, she knows that there is no way on this God's earth that the man can pay. He has usually taken up liaison with somebody else from Mr. Haggerty's riding and he has already started two or three other families. So all you will be doing is robbing Peter to pay Paul, or taking the food from the mouths of babes to give it to the mouths of babes. I do not know where that is going to get you.

But I do think, Mr. Minister, that there should be some kind of a procedure that would look after all these situations—not just the ones that come within the scope of your department through social and family benefits, the family allowances or general welfare assistance.

When I spoke on this in a previous department—perhaps Mr. Downer can recall—I deplored the lack of organization in our family court. For example, an order can be given for one of the four or more reasons that I have given. The wife does not receive the money but she does not want to report it; she does not want to report it for a number of those reasons. The result is that the husband, who does not know where the wife is or does not see the children, does not make the payments into court. He says, "If I cannot see my children, I am not going to pay." The wife, who does not want the husband around to see the children because she has got another lover, does not want to force the issue, but in the meantime those arrears keep build-

ing up. And I have had cases where there have been arrears of \$6,000 to \$8,000. I also know of a case taken to the Court of Appeal, which held that they cannot build up that long anyway.

But, at any rate, after the woman's new interest pales and she finds out that she is a little hardpressed for money, her mother says to her, "But, sweetie, that good-for-nothing husband of yours has not been paying you. There are a lot of arrears. Why do you not go down to the family court and haul him in and make him pay?" That is fine, except in the interval that man has been budgeting according to the circumstances that were governing his life and those circumstances did not provide for payments to the wife because she was not objecting. All of a sudden he is called upon to pay \$2,000 or \$3,000 arrears and the judge says, "You pay or go to jail." You have heard that song. So one has to set up a programme that is going to be geared to the needs of all the parties.

I discussed it previously, and I said I am prepared to support the first family of a man who has deserted them and taken up a liaison with another woman and raising another family, providing he himself is looking after the new family. Two wrongs to me do not make a right and I cannot see why two women and two sets of children should both be living on a bare subsistence level because the government insists that the man make provisions for his first and what we refer to as his legitimate family.

Sure, it is all right. But, again, I just cannot see making the children of the second union suffer—and they are God's children just like the first. After all, we are the only ones who recognize illegitimacy. They say there are no illegitimate children, just illegitimate parents.

Mr. Haggerty: What we need is birth control procedures.

Mr. Ben: We have got a birth control procedure in every home in this country. It is called a television set.

Mr. Ferrier: It does not work too well.

Mr. W. Newman (Ontario South): We need better programmes.

Mr. Ben: Nobody takes time nowadays to go to bed.

I do think, by the way, Mr. Minister, that it is time for the gentleman over there to

publish his new report so that we can see just what his department is doing.

It is interesting to know that they undertook 6,600 cases and had 2,200 locations, but surely they ought to have a better record than that if, as Mr. Smith points out, they followed the usual procedures.

In this day and age a man usually has to have a social security card, an OHSIP card, an OHSC number, an income tax number or a driver's licence number; if not you might—

Mr. Downer: Illegally.

Mr. Ben: Yes, illegally; you are right. Or he may have half a dozen credit cards, because he may have nothing but American money in his pocket and nobody will take it.

So they should be easy to locate, and I think we ought to have a report on that. Now, Mr. Minister, I want to go back to what I was going to—

Mr. Deans: Just one second. Why should that not be done through the police rather than through the department here?

Mr. Ben: The police have at least 150,000 unreturned summonses.

Mr. Deans: No, what I was thinking was that—I was just questioning it—when the order is made in the court and the money is payable into the court, why should the courts, through the police, not make those investigations much more quickly than to wait until finally someone gets around to making some complaint about it?

Mr. Trotter: Sending the police—

Mr. Ben: Sending the police is not going to solve anything. It is not going to get us anything. One of the things that I deplore is calling it the Metropolitan Toronto Juvenile and Family Court. There is nothing that helps to break up homes more than having a husband summonsed to a court by his wife. I wish they would call it something else, the Metropolitan Toronto Family Counselling Service or any other name. There is nothing worse than having a man summonsed to a court by his wife or his children—

Mr. Deans: No, there is one thing worse. There is a guy who will not pay the bills that he is legally responsible for, and that is worse. That is what we are dealing with.

Mr. Ben: That is what the Toronto Better Business Bureau would tell us.

Mr. Trotter: That is a socialist talking.

Mr. Ben: Anyway, back to this, Mr. Minister. I believe I was asked by Mr. Deans what I would do if I—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I indicated that the AG is looking at that, the total problem.

Mr. Ben: Yes, the AG said he was looking at it in 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You have a new aggressive Attorney General.

Mr. Ben: I must say he is; that department is rather consistent. When they undertake to look at a thing, they are looking at it and indeed they do. They never give up looking at anything. Now, Mr. Minister—

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will all surprise you.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Minister, as he was asking me we were discussing these youngsters, I do not have an immediate solution, because there is no simple solution. I think somebody asked about youngsters—it was Mr.—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Peacock.

Mr. Ben: I do not have a simple solution, because they say simple solutions are usually advanced by simple people, but one of the things that I do advocate setting up—and it should come under your department or The Department of Education—is a course in marriage and family living, a course to teach our young that marriage is an achievement and not a gift and that good or successful marriages may be made in heaven but they sure are preserved or maintained on earth. Too many people think that marriage is just an extension of high school dating, but this useful and naive ecstasy seems to wear off as soon as the mortgage payment, the car payments, the dirty dishes and the diaper rashes and the measles and the mother-in-law starts coming around.

Mr. Minister, we spent thousands and thousands of dollars training our youngsters for jobs and yet it has been said that we have to retrain them every 10 years because the jobs that we trained them for are becoming extinct or being phased out, so we go back and we retrain them again and retrain them again and we call it adult retraining. And it strikes me as strange that we spend all this money training people for

jobs that are going to be extinct in a decade, while we do not spend two cents to train them for the most important job of all—marriage—a job that is supposed to last a lifetime.

Now where is the sense to that, unless we consider marriage to be obsolete and since it costs us money to issue marriage licences, more than we take in in revenue, maybe we ought to just stop it if that is our attitude. But surely—

Mr. Deans: I thought it was Liberal policy.

Mr. Ben: No, it is not Liberal policy. We believe—

Mr. Deans: I am not asking you.

Mr. Ben: I see.

Mr. Ferrier: We need a lot more marriage counselling.

Mr. Ben: Not only that, Mr. Minister, but perhaps we ought to take a book out of The Department of Education's programme on this business of retraining, that even after we do set up a course in marriage counselling and family living we ought to have a retraining programme and perhaps every 10 years it might be just a good idea to give a refresher course.

Mr. Haggerty: Who is going to pay?

Mr. Ben: Who is going to pay? Mr. Haggerty asks, "Who is going to pay?" The people who are paying now because of broken marriages and that is the public, and the cost is greater, the attrition of family living and the suffering of youngsters and deserted wives and the like than, of course, marriage preparation would cost.

At the present time we have many associations, church groups and others, giving courses in marriage—especially the churches—premarital courses. We even have some prenaternity clinics that are run by private agencies—we even have some that are run by public agencies—but surely a job this important should not be left to chance or the goodwill of some well-motivated people?

This is something, to me, that is more important than just going to some course that is set up in the church basement, although I applaud the people who run those particular courses. Furthermore, I think that we ought to be giving all our young people a functional check up to see how they are getting along in marriage.

We seem to displace any responsibility for people getting married after we make them pay the \$2 for the licence and \$5 for the minister.

Mr. Ferrier: I thought Trudeau said that we should keep the state out of our bedrooms?

Mr. Ben: I want them to go and have a cup of tea in the living room.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, may I ask if the member is through?

Mr. Ben: Through? I have not even started. And what I should like to see is us running a sort of retreat or giving married couples sabbatical. Always you hear about the Couchiching Conference up at Lake Simcoe at the YMCA camp. Why can we not run these conferences for our young married people? Why cannot we utilize those places? There is a number of things that we could do. We could probably teach these youngsters that it is more fun talking to each other than talking to the television set.

Secondly, if they have any problems you could have professional people there to help them. If it is a problem that involves children, most psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers now say that problems should be treated in a family setting; that is, problems beget problems, and if there is a well defined problem with any individual in the family it has its background in the family as a whole. It affects the whole family, so why not send him up there and have them try to smooth out any rough edges or spots that have arisen during this term?

Margaret Mead, the world famous anthropologist, who these days seems to be making more pronouncements on family life than she does in the field of pure anthropology—although I imagine the people across the road in the University of Toronto will tell you that anthropology is the study of the family of man, or the human family—once said that the contemporary family structure was a massive failure and that by the year 2000 the family as we know it would be doomed.

Now, there is no doubt that there has been a change in the family function. Father now is not necessarily the head of the house nor even the breadwinner. In many places, parents are no longer able to influence, as markedly as in the past, the moral upbringing of their young or their education or their job choice, or even their choice of mates, and I

make that plural because nowadays it is fashionable to have more than one.

Society, in the guise of teachers and radio commentators and newspaper columnists, the clergy, the television, scout leaders, now plays a more prominent role in looking after our young; and maybe getting them out to a place like that for a week, or 10 days, or two weeks, might just reassert the family tie, teach them to speak to each other again, at least give the parents an opportunity for two weeks to devote their interests to the children, at least give them a chance for two weeks for the children to know their parents. But why should we always be—

Mr. Carruthers: Do you mean a conference?

Mr. Ben: No, not a conference, just to spend some time together, and they would have people to guide them there.

Mr. Carruthers: Groups in conference.

Mr. Ben: Sure, something must be done about these things. I think, with all due respect to the Conservatives, their philosophy is that you ought to preserve that which is good, and I would say that a family is a great institution.

I think it should be strengthened; I think it should be encouraged; I think it should be perpetuated. But when we let children of 16 years old run off and determine their own destiny, our letting them go and our making provision that we pay them under general welfare assistance is actually providing an easy way for many parents to abdicate their responsibility toward their young.

We are looking at the other side of the coin. How do you expect these children to grow up to be good parents when they have not had an opportunity to have parents of their own, so to speak. I do not think a child really understands the responsibility that parents have toward them until they get into their teens, when they can understand and appreciate the sacrifices that most parents make to clothe them; to educate them; to feed them; so house them; to see that they get medical attention; to see that they get a smattering of culture here; to see that they get some training in sports and athletics.

This is when children just begin to understand that all these things do not come out of a slot machine by the insertion of a credit card or something like that. When the parents do buy things on credit cards or on credit they have to pay for them, or they should

pay for them. These kinds of things bother me. I do not think you can just take it as an isolated occurrence in the affairs of man that there are deserted wives—or deserting husbands—and that there are children leaving home at 16 and getting welfare.

I think it is the whole concept of day-to-day living that we must take into consideration. We must start to raise our children so that they, in turn, can become parents, not fathers and mothers, but parents. Anybody, almost any man can sire an offspring; almost any woman can bear a child—but how many men and women end up being parents? I did not even say good parents. I will be satisfied if they are, to their children, parents besides just being fathers and mothers.

My friend here wanted to say something. I am not finished but I wanted to go to another subject. Did you want to say something about this matter?

Mr. Haggerty: I just wanted to get into the family counselling. I was wondering—has the minister given any views or has he considered any increase in the family benefits share from 50 per cent to 80 per cent? Perhaps we would get more involvement in local municipalities if your department would increase it to 80 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are going to take a look at that.

Mr. Haggerty: No, do not take a look at it, do something. You have said this for as long as I can remember. Back in municipal council, you were going to take a look at it, you know. I am sure you have had requests from the Ontario Municipal Association and the mayors and reeves for year after year, and you are still going to take a look at it. You have a resolution from the regional municipality of Niagara—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I know; I realize. There is nothing in this budget for the change you have suggested so all I can tell you at this point is that I will personally consider that.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, look at the end result and implement it. You would probably get better results; you would cut down on a person's need for assistance, I think.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I want to look at the whole field of counselling. We have now taken over the credit counselling as a responsibility of our department. I want to combine

it with our family service counselling activities and see if we cannot work out some new arrangements but I cannot tell you what I am going to do at this particular point in time.

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished on this particular subject?

Mr. Ben: No, on this particular subject—I am going to swing over to the elderly.

Mr. Chairman: I think we will recess for the time being, until 8 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Is elderly the next feature?

Mr. Ben: Yes, it is like going from the cradle to the grave.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Social and
Family Services

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, May 31, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1971

The committee met at 8.05 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL
AND FAMILY SERVICES*(continued)*

On vote 2002.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, we have a quorum. Mr. Ben, do you wish to continue?

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I just want to elucidate on that business of the sabbatical. Some members thought I meant that they should take the whole year off. I am afraid that would be a little too much.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Actually the minister was out checking up to see how families were making out, whether your people were doing okay.

Mr. Ben: No, I think if we permitted every family to take off one year, at least the next year might be a fat one.

Anyway, I want to discuss the homes for the aged and the elderly. I want to discuss geriatrics just briefly because it was already mentioned. We do not have a programme in the Province of Ontario which has been initiated or conducted by the Province of Ontario with reference to geriatrics or the study of geriatrics. Sure, the people in places such as Baycrest Home for the Aged do carry on a study as part of their on-going programme in geriatrics. Sure, we have Lambert Lodge and we are going to have a programme when we get the new Lambert Lodge and I trust that—

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): That will be 50 years from now!

Mr. Ben: Well, it may come sooner than that. It may be 49 years! But we actually do not have a geriatric centre which is financed solely by the Province of Ontario—and for those moderns who do not know what the word “financed” means—it is the same as funded—and this is something that we should have.

At the present time, we have been treating our senior citizens as second or third class citizens. I recall arguing with your predecessor about Laughlen Lodge, finding out that he had promised financing or funding for the reconstruction of that institution which is located here on Elizabeth and Edward Streets. As a matter of fact, it occupies the whole block.

After much argument, he did come out with an announcement that it would be reconstructed. At the present time it is a fire trap. Going by the institution, I can see no sign of activity whatsoever. When are you going to start doing something on that? Do you know?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Social and Family Services): On what?

Mr. Ben: Laughlen Lodge. Do you know where Laughlen Lodge is?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I know where—

Mr. Ben: When are you going to start replacing it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Laughlen Lodge is owned by a private corporation and they are still talking to us about what their ultimate plans are.

Mr. Ben: Good grief! Mama mia—as Dante De Monte would say!

Mr. Deans: He says it better though—more authentic.

Mr. Ben: Your predecessor announced that they were going to give the necessary grant to reconstruct Laughlen Lodge. Now, come on. Let me tell you a little anecdote which is typical of the Conservative Party. You have got some information on it. All right. I am all ears.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Laughlen Lodge, as you will recall, was part of the original announcement about Lambert Lodge. It was hoped that Laughlen Lodge would be located there, as I understand it but now—

Mr. Ben: That is news to me.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That was the original announcement.

Mr. Ben: That was not the original announcement. Somebody is conning you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have read the announcement. If you will read back, you will find that regarding Laughlen Lodge, they had hoped—at least, my predecessor had hoped—they might locate it on the campus site up there with Lambert Lodge. Now, as I understand it, that subsequently has been turned down by Laughlen Lodge. I have not talked to the Laughlen Lodge people. As I indicated to you, it is run by a private board. It is not our institution. In other words, all we do is come into the funding operation. It is not our—

Mr. Ben: But they asked you to fund it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You understand that—

Mr. Ben: Yes, Metro asked for a grant from you people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —it is not like an Ontario Hospital or anything like that.

Mr. Ben: Good grief!

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not so sure that you understand sometimes so please forgive me if I—

Mr. Ben: I understand. You remind me of this little anecdote about a woman who went into a funeral director's parlour. Her husband was laid out there and she kept on wailing, saying, "My Sammy, my Sammy, my Sammy" so finally the funeral director came over there and he said, "What is the matter, madam? Why are you wailing?" She said, "Look at my Sam." "What is wrong with your Sam?" "Well, look at him. All his life he wanted to go away in a blue serge suit and look, you have got him in a grey flannel suit." He said, "Well, madam, this is an economy special and with an economy special comes a grey flannel suit." So she said to him, "Well, Mr. Undertaker, look over there. That man has a blue serge suit on. Maybe you could—"

He said, "Madam, what are you suggesting? This is a respectable establishment," so she kept on wailing and wailing and wailing and finally he could stand it no longer. He said, "Madam, please step outside for two minutes, just two minutes." So she stepped outside. He pulled the curtain and in two minutes he opened the curtain

and he said, "Now, look." She said, "Oh, thank you, thank you very much, sir. Oh, he will be so happy now. There is my dear beloved husband in a blue serge suit."

So she started looking from one body to the other, back and forth again, and the man said, "Well, what is the matter now, madam?" She said, "Oh, nothing, nothing. I was just wondering." He said, "Pray, what were you wondering, madam?" She said, "I was wondering how, in two minutes, you could change the suits so fast?" He said, "Madam, I want to tell you something about our economy specials. We do not change the suits. It is just the heads."

That is the Tory party. All they did was change the heads but the carcass is still dead.

Mr. Chairman: Well, now let us revert to vote 2002.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Haggerty tells those stories better than you do.

Mr. Ben: Getting over to this, it seems you people are dead from the neck down and the head is not operating. Anyway, getting to this business, now you tell us the Laughlen Lodge is not proceeding—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Why do you not tell us about the things that are happening in Metro?

Mr. Ben: You mean about the people becoming dissatisfied with the Tories which causes them to postpone an election and going to the people?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am talking about—

Mr. Ben: It does not come under this estimate. It comes under the Prime Minister (Mr. Davis).

Mr. Deans: Mr. Chairman, let us get on with the vote.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Homes for the aged—

Mr. Ben: Okay, so now we know that. Fine. Now homes for the aged. This is what I wanted to discuss with you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but just list the ones that are being built by Metro.

Mr. Ben: Look, you took me to task and you said there were 21 or 22 of these elderly persons' centres. I said there were 13, so they gave me an up-to-date list. Mine ran to 13. I now find that you have the

Stratford Kiwanis Senior Citizens Centre at 30 Rebecca Street, Stratford; and 14(a) is Tilbury Leisure Centre at 10 Canal Street West in Tilbury and the 15th, the one that we were arguing about, the last one that was given the status of the elderly persons' centre was WoodGreen Community Centre. Perhaps members will excuse me for not being aware of the fact that they renovated part of that establishment and labelled it an elderly persons' recreation centre so they could get some money out of you people, because all the time, up to the present, it was operating strictly as a recreation centre.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I told you that before supper but see, you just—

Mr. Ben: All right, so just because recently—and at what date did WoodGreen Community Centre—

Hon. Mr. Wells: It has changed over in the last six months.

Mr. Ben: The last six months?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Ben: Fine.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You will not listen when we tell you.

Mr. Ben: You told me and I listened. You told me that the WoodGreen Community Centre was part of it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Keep your ears open!

Mr. Ben: We now have 15 in the Province of Ontario. This great province, the place to stand, the place to grow, as long as it is not old—we now have 15 elderly persons' centres. Big thing—\$150,000 a year you put up.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Have you ever got around and found out how many of these things they have in some of the other jurisdictions and in the United States? Go around some time and take a look.

Mr. Ben: So the United States is an example for the world to emulate?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I am just making this suggestion to you. You know, when you get your crying towel out—

Mr. Ben: I will tell you I am an open-minded individual and if you have the provincial Treasurer (Mr. McKeough) write me

a blank cheque, I will be very happy to visit all the 50 states of the union and carry out a personal investigation as to their—

An hon. member: We will all go.

Mr. Ben: Fine. Anything to leave the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Dymond). Anyway, getting back to the senior citizens' homes and homes for the aged.

A year ago I was at the opening of the Ivan Franco home in my riding. It is located on Royal York Road. It is also located on the banks of a creek. It is simply beautiful—not large, two or three storeys depending on which side you are looking at. It is a split-level place put up by the Ukrainian community with the usual assistance from this government. But it is the location that to me is important. It backs on to this creek, a beautifully wooded area with green grass, waters rippling down over the rocks, and paths through the woods for the people to walk along and meditate.

When one considers the sterile blocks of concrete in the boondocks that the municipalities in this government are building, can one wonder, one can appreciate why the people are reluctant to go into those old age homes. I ask myself why can we not do something for these people, except isolating them or taking them away from the communities in which they grew up.

We have a few that are built in downtown Toronto—Metro put up one—but they all do look sterile. Sure, they plant trees, but how fast do these trees grow? I planted some 15 years ago when I occupied my present home and they are still considered young trees. It is going to take at least three or four generations of our elderly before any trees they have planted in the vicinity of the senior citizen housing will ever mature to the degree that they are going to give shade.

I was thinking to myself—

Mr. Deans: The member for Grey-Bruce should go back to where he came from.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): We have got enough troubles.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Ben: Welcome, Mr. Sargent. I need it. I needed somebody to keep that rabble in order. I was thinking to myself that maybe in the built-up areas we should reserve ravine and lots adjacent to rivers for senior citizen housing.

We were discussing Lambert Lodge, and where is it? For those who do not know, it is on Christie Street, north of Dupont.

Mr. Deans: Where is that?

Mr. Ben: It is north of the Planters peanut plant that gives off the fragrance or odour, depending upon one's taste, of freshly roasted peanuts.

Mr. Haggerty: There, you know now.

Mr. Ben: It used to be a cash register plant. I think it was the first plant by the National Cash Register Company.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): That was the smell of money.

Mr. Ben: That is right—immediately to the south of it. To the east of it is Union Carbide and the odours that are wafted from that direction in an east wind are not much preferable to the odour of freshly roasted peanuts, salted or unsalted.

They turned Lambert Lodge into a veteran's hospital after the First World War or during the First World War, but immediately before the end of the Second World War they gave it up and moved all the veterans into the new—

Hon. R. T. Potter (Minister without Portfolio): After the war started.

Mr. Ben: Was it after the war? All right; they moved them all to Sunnybrook Hospital. I thought they constructed Sunnybrook Hospital during the war.

At any rate, Lambert Lodge was supposed to be a temporary residence for our elderly and our senior citizens until they had constructed new quarters for them. Hilltop Acres is located on the north side of Davenport Road just north of Lambert Lodge. Davenport Road is the first main artery north of Lambert Lodge—and it used to be a Red Chevron hospital, also for our veterans. If my memory serves me well, there were about six portables at the time they moved out the veterans. They turned these into a temporary senior citizen residence and they are still there.

We were led to believe by this minister's predecessor that those eyesores—and I must say that the main building of the Red Chevron is not an eyesore; it is in pretty good shape. They have a large lawn in front, although you would have to be a mountain goat to make use of it because it is so steep. But at least there were old

trees, shady trees, and lots of grass. Those were supposed to be temporary and they are still here. The minister recently made an announcement that Lambert Lodge is going to be replaced. When I asked the minister when, he said, "We are still talking to them." Talking to whom? You said it was going to be done—sorry, the former minister of Social and Family Services said it was going to be done.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Talking to the—

Mr. Ben: No. He said that Lambert Lodge was going to be replaced.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is.

Mr. Ben: When? in due course of time.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no. It is on its way. You asked me for a specific date. I cannot tell you.

Mr. Ben: Give me a specific date?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You will have to ask them.

Mr. Ben: Give me a specific month in a specific year?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The member does not understand. We do not own Lambert Lodge outright. Lambert Lodge is run by the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. The date hinges on things that they have to know, too.

Mr. Ben: I am quite aware of who owns it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: If you are aware of that you will realize that we are ready to co-operate with them. I told you that I have been working with them over the last few weeks now.

Mr. Ben: But this is not what your predecessor said. He did not say that you were ready to co-operate. He said it was going to be replaced.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All right. There is a lot that goes on between saying it is going to be replaced and how it is going to be replaced, what size building, what type—

Mr. Ben: Having dealt with the Tory government for five years, I believe that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The member does not understand.

Mr. Ben: Of course, we do not.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but I do.

Mr. Ben: What you mean is that we do not accept the lame excuses that you give for your inactivity. That is what you are saying.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Hear, hear.

Mr. Ben: Now—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Have you talked to any of the people in Metropolitan Toronto about this project?

Mr. Ben: If I would have had—

Hon. Mr. Wells: If you had talked to them, you would be a little more intelligently informed on what is going on.

Mr. Ben: I no doubt would.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Ben: That is for sure because I do not get anything intelligent out of this government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am telling you what is happening in that particular case.

Mr. Ben: Now, I know. I should not have accepted even the time of day from you people. I should always look at my own watch. Anything I get from any source other than this government would be more accurate and reliable than what you people have to say. But the minister, your predecessor, did not say he was negotiating to replace Lambert Lodge. He did not say he was negotiating to replace Laughlen Lodge. He said that they had made agreements to replace them. So do not tell me about being informed.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I said we are going to replace them. Now you are asking me when the work is going to start and I tell you I cannot tell you when the work is going to start.

Mr. Ben: Precisely. When you tell me an agreement is reached, I expect it to be in the immediate future and not in some nebulous period of time.

Mr. Deans: What negotiations are presently being carried on?

Hon. Mr. Wells: At the present time, we are discussing the type of building that can be built, the total planning for the site. I do not know whether my friend was here this

afternoon when I indicated we are planning a total geriatric centre for that campus-like geriatric centre there in which Metropolitan Toronto and ourselves are very interested. Before there can be initial approvals for any of the components for that, we want to see a site plan. This is what we are presently talking with Metro about. I was away with the people from Metro only two weeks ago to look at some geriatric centres in Philadelphia and to get some ideas. We are actively working on this programme.

Mr. Deans: Are they presently drawing up plans to propose—

Hon. Mr. Wells: They have an architect—the whole works. Everything is presently going ahead but as to the exact time when there will be a shovel put in that ground, I cannot tell you yet.

Mr. Deans: Have there been any tentative agreements reached?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The tentative agreements reached are that we have agreed to replace Lambert Lodge. That is the tentative agreement. Having decided on that, all the details have to be worked out and their architects still have not drawn their final plans.

Mr. Deans: How long has this been going on? When did you first start the negotiations?

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): They will announce it the day before the election.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have got—

Hon. Mr. Potter: The member for Grey-Bruce should stay out of it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Yaremko announced this—when was it?—early last summer last year.

Mr. Ben: When the minister finds out will he announce it now?

Mr. Deans: A year ago at this time. Today, other than discussing off the record more or less what might be used to compose the final complex, there have not been any agreements, even preliminary agreements drawn up and signed?

Hon. Mr. Wells: There really is not any need for any agreements until we get to the point of actually having the plan and it is actually tendered. Then we accept the plans and accept the tendered price. We do not need any agreements.

Mr. Deans: One final question. Is it the responsibility of Metro to propose the plans to the government or vice versa?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is the responsibility of Metro to propose the plans to us.

Mr. Trotter: Metro does not have the money. That is the trouble and, basically, the problem.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no. That is not the problem.

Mr. Trotter: Sure it is.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Metro is quite happy to go ahead with this.

Mr. Trotter: If they had the money.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are both budgeting it and we are both going ahead. I do not know how I can impress upon you this fact. Metro wants to do it. We want to do it. We are trying to do it at the present time.

An hon. member: And nobody does it.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): How much money is included in this year's estimate for that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: In this year's estimate? There would be a very small sum of money in this year's estimate, because there is no way we could spend \$50,000, \$60,000 or \$75,000 on perhaps architectural planning this year.

Mr. Trotter: Where is that in the estimates?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Is that included in this estimate?

Hon. Mr. Wells: If it is in there, it is in the vote for the homes for the aged, under moneys for the homes for the aged.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well is it or is it not?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Is it or is it not? How much is in there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is in there if we need it.

Mr. R. S. Smith: How much is in there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I tell you it is there if we need it.

Mr. R. S. Smith: How much is there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I tell you it is there if we need it.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Well how much is there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The \$50,000, \$60,000 whatever we would need for that project over there.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Why do you not ask some of your people to tell you how much is there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am telling you how much is there. I know how much is there.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Is it \$50,000 or \$60,000?

Hon. Mr. Wells: If we need it for that project.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Or \$100,000.

Mr. R. S. Smith: How much specifically is there?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just told you. Mr. Chairman, how many times do I have to answer a question?

Mr. Deans: Mr. Chairman, I think for the first time today we just got—

Mr. Chairman: It inspires an agreement; there is an allotted amount of money, and I think the minister has gone as far as he possibly can; it has got to go through this course, the municipality has got to submit its plans—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: You did pretty well until now.

Mr. Chairman: I know, but we have been dwelling on this one subject for an hour now, surely, surely—

Mr. Ben: Do not spoil it, this is the only man I know who can get into so many holes without putting a shovel in the ground.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Listen, I told you we would reconstruct the Queen Street Mental Health Centre and it is being done.

Mr. Ben: They have been doing work there for the last 15 years.

Mr. Haggerty: When is it to be completed, 1974 or 1975?

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, you are aware the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto was prepared to proceed a couple of years ago but this government refused to contribute toward it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: This government is not refusing to contribute toward Laughlen Lodge when they come forward with a viable plan

that meets with our approval, it is as simple as that.

Mr. Ben: I put it to you that last year they were prepared to proceed but this government would not contribute and they had a viable plan. Do you want me to get Hansard and start reading the correspondence?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They approached us and they agreed to go with us into this campus development of the Lambert Lodge.

Mr. Ben: I am talking about the year before when they wanted that reconstructed. Was Metro Toronto or was not Metro Toronto prepared to proceed with its reconstruction?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot tell you what went on two years ago.

Mr. Ben: There are a lot of things you cannot tell us. All right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We never turned them down, it was part of negotiations—

Mr. Ben: You did turn them down.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Our people have grave doubts about reconstructing at that present site.

Mr. Ben: Somebody delay this while I go get Hansard.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I told you I was not the minister. All I can do is—

Mr. Ben: Then do not tell me that you did not turn it down or I will go read last year's Hansard where I read into the record the correspondence that passed—

An hon. member: Just listen to the advice he is getting from the head man.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Crawford says that we never turned it down, we merely indicated that we did not like the site, the rebuilding on that site, you know where it is right down in the centre of downtown Toronto, and as a result of that a proposal to relocate at the Lambert Lodge—

Mr. T. P. Reid: And you would not get any—

Mr. Ben: I will come back. I will get the quote.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You do not need to worry, you can bring it back tomorrow, we will be happy to have it from you tomorrow. Keep going.

Mr. Chairman: Vote carried?

Mr. Ben: Homemakers.

Mr. Deans: Hang on. While you are on the homes for the aged I want to ask something. Since there are a lot of condominium and townhouse arrangements being built in municipalities, is the department considering perhaps acquiring sectors or groups of apartments within those developments so that people can live right in the community, so elderly people can live right in the community, without being segregated and also herded into one rather large facility?

Hon. Mr. Wells: This at first looks like a good idea. I do not know whether you have had the same experience that I have had. In Metropolitan Toronto, Ontario Housing Corporation does not look after the senior citizens apartments, so a lot of senior citizens who cannot get into the municipal senior citizens apartments want to get in an Ontario Housing project. And they are in there about a month and they are back to see us because they just cannot take it.

Mr. Deans: I was not thinking so much of Ontario Housing projects.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but I mean that is a sort of an analogy, because they find that life is not quite as good for them if they are mixed in with a lot of families with children and the whole mix of people in these developments. I have seen this happen.

Mr. Deans: Have they tried it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have not tried it that I know of in any particular arrangements, but I am just telling you that the general people in my own riding who have gone into an Ontario Housing development either in a highrise or the townhouse development find that they would rather be in—they tell me anyway—would rather be in a development that was all senior citizens.

Mr. Deans: Yes, well they have rather extensive programmes, which is apart from what I am raising with you, but perhaps they connect in some way. There are rather extensive programmes in Britain in regard to the care for the aged. Instead of putting them into homes, which they do as a last resort with those who are infirm, they would subsidize them to an extent within their own homes and provide all of the—this is really in The Department of Health—care that they require, rather than move them physically

from where they live at the time to another location in some other part of the city and group them all together.

It always struck me, I can remember my grandparents, four as everyone else has had, and they lived in that kind of environment. Instead of being moved, taken physically from this street here and moved half a dozen blocks or two or three miles to a home where they could all live together, they provide a much better—it seems to me—level of service in the home. And this could be done through The Department of Social and Family Services, in things like good care and things like what we have now, meals of wheels, that kind of programme, only it is an on-going programme that deals specifically with the aged; it does all of the things for them that would be done for them if their family were there.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Like the home care programme for the aged?

Mr. Deans: Like the home care programme for the aged, except it is a much more extensive programme dealing in every phase of their needs as they grow old. And it saves, I suspect—and I am only looking at it from a very superficial view—a lot in the transferring and moving and building of housing developments and apartments and the like for elderly people.

I would think that it would be worthwhile for the Ontario government to take a very serious look at that proposal. I realize that things that come from Britain do not often sit well with the government. I can appreciate that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, no, we have no prejudices.

Mr. Deans: But I can tell in some of the remarks that you make that you are not too keen on it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no, we do not hold any prejudices.

Mr. Deans: Well I do not know, I thought this evening you showed some earlier. But anyway I do not care. I do not care if you have any or not.

It seems to me that we could develop in the Province of Ontario a fairly extensive range of services that will be available to elderly people that would enable them to remain in the homes in which they live, in which they have grown up, and the homes they have lived in most of their lives, including all of the necessary range of services,

and this is provided in other jurisdictions and it cuts down to some extent on the call for apartment dwellings and for homes for them to move into.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I certainly think it is something we can look into. You reach the point I suppose where the services become just too great, especially in the homes where they live, because sometimes they—

Mr. Deans: I will tell you what happens though. Let us take a look at what happens to a person: In senior citizens apartments we subsidize them, we will build an apartment building and we will subsidize or we will amortize it over such a long period of time that the rents are very low, and therefore the people are encouraged to leave the home that they live in and go there, because economically they cannot stand up under the economic pressures of living in their own home.

Why can we not have a programme to subsidize them right in their own home? Why can we not spend the equivalent amounts of money to subsidize them there rather than moving them? It is not as if it is a long-term thing for each individual. Not too many of them live a hell of a long time, so you are talking about providing something for people in their own community.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is a very good suggestion and a possibility that should be looked at more specifically.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier is next to Mr. Ben.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not think I will reach the ethereal or exalted heights of the hon. member for Humber in my little presentation, but I might deal with a problem or two that I think is relevant to these estimates.

The first problem that I want to deal with is the programme of the department whereby Ontario Hospital Services Commission and OHSIP premiums are picked up by the department for old age pensioners, and this is a very significant programme, especially the fact that the Ontario Hospital Services Commission premium is covered.

In a lot of cases a man or his spouse will be older than the other one, maybe as much as three or four years, and it is the department's policy to pick up the premium for just one of the two, and the other person has got to continue paying the Ontario Hospital Services premium until he or she reaches the

age of 65. Now if the one spouse can qualify for it, it would seem to me that their income level is such that they really need this kind of assistance, and it would make a great deal of sense to me that the other spouse should be covered as well under those premiums. What happens in some instances is that they will come and they will say, "I just cannot keep that up; it is just too much, so I am going to let it go." They let it go and what happens is they get sick and go into the hospital and have no coverage. They have no money, and it means that the cost has to be picked up at the indigent rate by the local welfare department. So really it is probably costing the public purse as much, if not more, by leaving that person in the position where he is either having to pay that premium himself or let it go and then when he gets ill the local welfare administrator has to pick it up.

Have you any reason for not changing this and picking up both premiums for recipients when one becomes an old age pensioner and the other is a few years younger?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Administratively that is the way the plan has been initiated to cover the old age security person and that gap exists, as you have outlined.

Mr. Trotter: That is no answer.

Mr. Ferrier: I think that you should close the gap, really.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will take a look at it. That is the answer that there is. I am being very truthful with you instead of trying to hedge around.

Mr. Ferrier: I appreciate your frankness and I would really think that you should review that programme and, if possible, be able to extend the coverage to those people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We do that by regulation. We will take a look at it.

Mr. Ferrier: All right.

Mr. Trotter: You do not even have to pass a law. All you have to do is change a regulation.

Mr. Ferrier: The next problem that I have—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I point out to you that we have done quite a bit of this in the last few weeks.

Mr. Trotter: No, you have not, you are full of gaps.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You put your blinkers on when we do things.

Mr. Trotter: Your biggest trouble is your credibility gap.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You put your blinkers on when we do things.

Mr. Trotter: Nothing doing, it is too obvious.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You cannot even name the things that we have done in the last two weeks.

Mr. Ferrier: We will be extremely happy that you take a look at these things.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is the hon. member for Parkdale who gets his blinkers on.

Mr. Ferrier: We will be extremely happy if you will follow through. You will get support from all of us if you will.

The next point has to do with two resolutions that were passed by the home for the aged in my riding and, I think, were dealt with at the Ontario Municipal Association and the annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Homes for the Aged. The resolutions are nine or so months old and I wonder if the department has considered them and what the minister's reaction to them is.

The first one is:

Whereas the subsidy programmes for Social and Family Services for the Province of Ontario are basically paid on the basis of 80 per cent of the total cost of the programme being supported by the Province of Ontario, and 20 per cent of the total cost of the programme being supported by the local municipality, and whereas the present subsidy arrangement in home for the aged discriminates against that segment of society in that the deficit operation is only subsidized to a maximum of 70 per cent by the Province of Ontario, therefore be it resolved that the hon. Minister of Social and Family Services be requested to revise the subsidies payable to homes for the aged to 80 per cent of the total deficit cost of operation from the existing 70 per cent of the audited cost of operation.

Now have you considered that and have you made a decision on that resolution?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Certainly we have considered it. As I think this matter was referred to before, there is nothing in these estimates that reflects a change from the 70 per cent.

Mr. Ferrier: This is quite a little time ago and I thought perhaps you may have revised your position on it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I indicated to you, everybody wants more money for all these programmes and we are very sympathetic to them but there is just no way in our budget for this year that we could change the arrangement under which we pay 70 per cent of operating cost of the municipal homes. It is, as I said, part of a total package that we talk about with the municipalities. In other words, really all these changes should be looked at together as we look at all the grants that we pay the municipalities from this government and the things that they have to pay. Together, I think at some kind of meeting, we have got to come down and decide which are the costs the municipalities should bear and which are the costs that the province should bear. Should we be giving larger—

Mr. Haggerty: Do blame it all on the municipalities.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not blaming them, I am suggesting that we have got to do it together, though, because the municipalities come and ask us to keep cutting down and taking over certain functions and they want increased grants for everything. Yet, carry it to its ultimate conclusion and they are not going to have anything left that they are actually paying for. If that is the case, what is the use of having municipalities? I think all of us would disagree with that. We would think that municipal government is a useful type of government and they have certain things to carry on. The question that arises in my mind is, for instance, should we perhaps be sharing all these things on a grant basis, or should we be providing, as we are asking the federal government to do, just X number of dollars to the municipalities in unconditional grants? These are all the things that have to be looked at and Municipal Affairs are taking the initiative as the primary department in preparing a position on this particular matter.

Pending that, in this budget there is no change in these figures and that is what we are voting here for.

Mr. Ferrier: There is an inconsistency here where you—

Hon. Mr. Wells: We recognize there is an inconsistency.

Mr. Ferrier: —pay 80-20 on one and 70-30 on the other. I hope that maybe next year we will have a change.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We recognize there is an inconsistency, but we want to get a total picture with the municipalities.

Mr. Ferrier: The second resolution I do not think basically requires a change in the amount of money, but the amount involves a change in when the homes get the money.

The second resolution is:

Whereas the present system of payments of government subsidies is very irregular, and therefore inadequate and inconvenient to the total homes for the aged operation, whereas the costs of subsidy per year are on a reasonably standardized basis, be it therefore resolved:

That the hon. Minister of Social and Family Services rearrange the payment of provincial subsidies to municipal homes for the aged to an advance payment of subsidy up to 90 per cent of the proposed approved budget for the current fiscal year to be paid in 12 equal monthly instalments on the first day of each month for that year, the balance of subsidy to be payable in one final adjustment after submission of the annual audited statement of the home.

This particular home in Timmins was getting its cheque considerably late each month and it meant, I believe, that they were having to go and sometimes borrow to get their money. Sometimes it would be in the middle of the month that the cheque finally came. It was causing some hardship and some concern.

Now, have you changed your method of payment?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think we have fixed up the Timmins situation. It was late and they have that fixed up. We are considering a new method of payment on all of these and also the municipalities on our share of the general welfare assistance. The federal government pays us in arrears and we have been paying the municipalities in arrears, but we are hoping to switch the whole thing around.

Mr. Ferrier: If everybody could pay on time I am sure it would facilitate things and everybody down the line would be happy and there would be fewer problems. These are the only items I wish to deal with.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith is next but Mr. Ben had not finished. Do you have just a short question or two, Mr. Smith?

Mr. Ben: I just found out. I must apologize to the minister—I thought it was in 1970 that I raised the issue about Lambert Lodge but it was in 1968. In 1968, the Metropolitan Toronto council—

Hon. Mr. Wells: We were talking about Lambert Lodge, not Laughlen Lodge.

Mr. Ben: Laughlen Lodge. Do not tell me you were talking about Lambert Lodge?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I thought you said Lambert Lodge.

Mr. Ben: No, you said that Laughlen Lodge is now going to be part of the Lambert Lodge campus; this is what you said.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I said that is what Mr. Yaremko said in his statement.

Mr. Ben: No, he did not.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, he did.

Mr. Ben: The metropolitan council were prepared to reconstruct Laughlen Lodge and prepared to take over the land for \$2.

Metro council, on June 21, 1968, adopted without amendment clause 1 of report No. 11 of the welfare housing committee headed, "Transfer of Ownership of Laughlen Lodge to Metropolitan Corporation," which proposed a conditional transfer of the deed and the land owned by the board of management of Laughlen Lodge to the metropolitan corporation on the understanding that the metropolitan corporation would erect thereon a new home for the aged to be operated by the metropolitan corporation. One of the conditions of the above proposal was that construction of the new home by the metropolitan corporation would commence within a period of 18 months from May 1, 1968, which period expired October 1, 1969. As your committee is aware, the province will give no definite commitment as to the availability of capital funds with respect to the construction of new projects at this time; it has not been possible to proceed with the

finalization of the agreement with reference to Laughlen Lodge.

By the way, this was the report that was tabled before the welfare housing committee on March 31, 1969. I continue:

I therefore recommend that the board of management of Laughlen Lodge be advised that until such time as the province will give a definite commitment respecting availability of capital funds for construction of new projects, the metropolitan corporation is not in a position to proceed with the suggested proposal.

In other words, at one time metropolitan council agreed to purchase the land from the corporation which operates Laughlen Lodge, for \$2. This was back in May, 1968. But within 18 months they had to construct or replace Laughlen Lodge. They came to the provincial government for assistance and they were turned down.

What the government said is that they were not at that time prepared to proceed. Do not tell me that is not turning down. They turned them down and the 18 months lapsed. I raised this, by the way, on May 1, 1969, pointing out that the time limit would expire October 1, 1969, and your predecessor permitted that time to lapse.

The estimated cost of demolishing the present building—this was speaking of 1969—and the construction of a new building is \$1,285,000. This is what the cost was at the time. Then I asked for assistance. I pointed out that the government, the Tory government of this province, was quick to give out forgivable loans in sums of \$500,000 and \$250,000 to companies like Allied Chemical and Kraft Foods and other multimillion-dollar corporations, but in its rock-hard heart, it cannot find \$1,285,000 to set up a home for 200 aged people.

This was in 1969. This government turned down the request of the metropolitan corporation for bucks to assist it to take over the land now occupied by the Laughlen Lodge, demolish the present edifice and put up a new home for the aged to house 200 people. You have the audacity to tell me this was not so.

Mr. Chairman: You got your point across but the minister is not responsible in these estimates—

Mr. Ben: The minister is the Minister of Social and Family Services. Laughlen Lodge comes within the scope of his department;

he is the Minister of Social and Family Services. We have an item here for the elderly persons; it says here "residential care for the aged." I would counsel the Chairman to have the courtesy to read the programme description under the vote we are considering and he will see we are right on point.

Mr. Chairman, you operate efficiently—

Mr. Chairman: But we are talking about the 1971-1972 estimates now.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, we are talking about residential care for the aged. We can discuss it from two aspects, the money that has been voted for that programme and the money which has not been voted for the programme. We can criticize—

Mr. Chairman: Sure, you can criticize.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Ben: All right, so now I want to point out that we are still not having the reconstruction of Laughlen Lodge.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Why do you not let the minister speak?

Hon. Mr. Potter: Let us talk about the 1971 estimates.

Mr. Ben: I am talking about the 1971 estimates. The minister is now telling me they are going to incorporate Laughlen Lodge and Lambert Lodge. What kind of nonsense is this? They are not going to do anything about Laughlen Lodge.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is not what I said.

Mr. Ben: You said it was going to become part of the Lambert Lodge campus—it would be a new word for a senior citizen complex—a campus.

Hon. Mr. Wells: The proposal anyway—just to correct the record—it is my understanding that when we asked Metropolitan Toronto would they set their priorities in this regard they indicated before Laughlen Lodge they wanted to consider a few other projects. I would have to get all the files to correct this. Then I think the board of Laughlen Lodge had some second thoughts about turning the thing over to the municipality.

Anyway, the upshot was that they did agree that they might like to relocate Laughlen Lodge in the property where Lambert Lodge is but that again has been reconsidered. We stand ready to assist Laughlen Lodge in the development of their complex.

I just point out that the one thing that I want to see, that I have not seen yet, is a broad five- and 10-year plan for the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto on the needs for the homes for the aged in this area. When I can see that, I will have a better idea—

Mr. Ben: You are talking a lot of nonsense, because you know that one council cannot tie up another council.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Somebody can do some planning, and that is all I want to see. I do not see any planning.

Mr. Ben: The planning should come from you. You have the responsibility for the senior citizens and the elderly, not the municipality.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We stand ready to assist. The municipality of Metropolitan Toronto has the responsibility for senior citizens and homes for the aged within the municipality.

Mr. Ben: You have the prime responsibility. They came to you and they asked for money and you denied them.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have a partnership funding arrangement; we do not have the prime responsibility. We are trying to encourage them to develop the plan so I can see where all the pieces fit in. I mean, it is all very nice for you to sit here and talk about this project—why do you not look around at some of the ones that have been replaced? What about Belmont House? Look at that, there is an old residence. Have you been up through Belmont House recently? It has been replaced in this length of time that you are just talking about.

Mr. Ben: It is strange but this is exactly what your predecessor said two years ago. He asked me why I did not talk about Belmont.

Mr. Deans: I would like to inform the committee of a rather important event. You are all aware, I am sure, of a rather important happening today in Brantford. At 8:45 the New Democratic Party candidate was leading by 3,300 votes with 130 polls counted.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben, will you continue?

Mr. Ben: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It seems strange that the first thing this minister says is why do I not go up to Belmont House. It is strange because two years ago this was the unit—Belmont House—that his predecessor

mentioned as to what a fine job they were doing. Tell me, is there no other place that you people are looking after beside Belmont House, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Shepherd Lodge, Unionville.

Mr. Ben: Is there no other place that you are proud of beside Belmont House?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Certainly. I just mention a few—Shepherd Lodge, Unionville; Thompson House, St. Anne's Tower. There are all kinds of them.

Mr. Ben: I am trying to find that reference to Belmont.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: We are going to assess all of Metro's needs. If the hon. member would care to go for a walk some day you can now walk south, walk north, and I direct the attention of the member for Downsview that up at Belmont Home—here on Belmont is probably the latest of the finest of the fine.

Same words, year after year. Two years later we still do not have a Laughlen Lodge. But he still tells us to inspect Belmont House.

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): You cannot change the truth.

Mr. Ben: The truth is that he is becoming fossilized to inactivity.

Mr. Dymond: No, no Belmont House is one of the best in the world.

Mr. Ben: Now I am prepared to admit that any step forward by this government should be applauded because they are usually so inert. But at Belmont House, as was pointed out, the sod was turned by Keiller Mackay, then the Lieutenant Governor of this province.

Hon. Mr. Potter: You are going back in history.

Mr. Ben: You are right. We are going back into history. That is when the first sod was turned. It is an historical event because it goes back to antiquity. You are right, Dr. Potter.

Hon. Mr. Potter: You have been talking about 1967 and 1968 all night. You might as well go back—

Mr. Ben: Keiller Mackay was here before 1965, my friend, so we are going back almost a decade. And you are still bragging about Belmont House as being the latest edifice to the glory of our senior citizens. Good grief.

Mr. Chairman: Who is next?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Can I just indicate to the hon. member also, Mr. Chairman, just to bring this up to date, in these estimates that we are voting today there is the sum of \$1 million for Metropolitan Toronto as a part of a cost toward a home for the aged?

Mr. Ben: Where is it going to be?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is already being constructed. It is under construction this year.

Mr. Ben: That is not the one where the old YWCA—not the old YWCA—Eaton's club was for—

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is at Dawes Road and Danforth Avenue.

Mr. Ben: Out in Scarborough?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. Ben: That is Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. Ben: In the hon. minister's riding?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No it is not.

Mr. Ben: But it is out in Scarborough, but not the city of Toronto. And that is where Laughlen Lodge is.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Actually it is probably in East York, not Toronto. I am sure that the hon. member realizes that homes for the aged are a Metro responsibility as far as this area is concerned.

Mr. Ben: I realize that nothing that I regard as social services are your responsibility.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I have a couple of questions. The first I covered a little earlier, as one of my main concerns with the minister in regard to the supplementary and special assistance. I would like to ask the minister if he is considering changing The District Welfare Administration Board Act in order to bring all municipalities in the district under the one board rather than allowing the cities within that district to maintain their own welfare establishment?

The problem with this is that in my specific area we have a district welfare board and we have a welfare department of the city and it is pretty obvious that the people within the city are paying on a per capita

basis about 20 per cent compared to what the people in the district are paying through their local taxation to maintain welfare. I would like to know just what equity there is in that and whether the minister is finally going to move to resolve the situation that has been just terrible since the day he established it, or his predecessor established it, and what indications will he make in order to provide financial assistance to these district boards that are in dire financial trouble. The people on welfare in those areas are not receiving anything that could be called equitable as far as welfare assistance is concerned.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are not at the present time considering making it mandatory for these cities to join.

Mr. R. S. Smith: In that case are you considering establishing a different type of grant structure to those municipalities that are suffering because of your legislation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have not any plans at the present time for a special grant structure universally. But as the member is probably aware there has been a special grant for Nipissing.

Mr. R. S. Smith: There was one special grant.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There was a special grant this year.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Above the ordinary grant?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Above the ordinary grant.

Mr. R. S. Smith: For what purpose?

Hon. Mr. Wells: To help them defray the special costs that they had because of the situations in the Nipissing area.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Or was that to cover the amounts of money that they had to pay over because of the court action?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That was last year's one. This year it was specially to help them over their problems.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Are you finally going to come to some solution to this problem? Because it is just going along from year to year, and what is happening is the poorer areas are paying more taxation for welfare purposes than the more affluent areas, and the people in the poorer areas are getting a much lesser service than the people in the more affluent areas. The purpose of general wel-

fare assistance, and of your whole department, is to assist those people in need. But in fact your legislation, the way it is set up, does the opposite.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would think that in preference to a mandatory inclusion in a unit we are looking at some financing formulas which may make it easier.

Mr. R. S. Smith: In other words you are considering changing your regulation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are taking a look at that. But we are not looking at making it mandatory for units to join the welfare—

Mr. R. S. Smith: For municipalities to join?

Hon. Mr. Wells: For municipalities to join at this point in time. Something I would like to have a little more time to have a look at myself. It may be that there is merit in that. I do not know.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The fact is that it is mandatory for some municipalities to join whether they like it or not.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. It is the cities that do not have to.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes. And what it has done is create areas that are just so far below the average that it is just not equitable, and you certainly have to move. And it has been going on for some years. You were involved in court actions because of bad advice that was given to the board that cost that board money which you people finally did pay because the judge in the court action said the responsibility partly lay with your department.

But it just cannot keep up like this. At the end of last year that board showed a deficit of \$17,000 and this year the amount of moneys that they have to raise at that level, in the district level, has increased from \$116,000 last year to \$173,000 this year, which represents a payment of over \$5 per capita for welfare costs in one of the poorest areas of the province. Whereas a large municipality that is included in that area, that has their own board, their per capita cost is somewhere below \$1.50. So there is a real hardship on that area, and it seems this has just been going from year to year.

I brought this up with the minister last year. He has been up there two or three times. He was up there two or three times, and there is no resolution to this other than the fact that you have to either make it mandatory, that all municipalities in the district

are in the board, or you have to change your grant structure, specifically to the administrative costs, because there is no way you can change your 80 per cent share. But in the meantime, there is no reason you could not move in there and take over the cost of special and supplementary programmes, because in that area there just is not the programme any longer.

You must understand that in the total area there are some townships that you cover yourself, where they are unorganized, and a person who is on one side of the line is eligible for a total programme under general welfare assistance through your own department; if he lives across the road on the other side he is eligible for a much lesser programme operated by the district welfare board. There are all kinds of inequities taking place and it is not the fault of the municipalities, particularly, because they just cannot tax their people any more than what they are now, when you consider that their tax per capita is four or five times higher than the municipality that is concerned.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will take a look at that particular problem but, as I say, we are in the process of making—well, I think it has gone out as a special grant to help them over this year because we know that they have problems.

Mr. R. S. Smith: That has been going on every year since it has been established; it is the fault of your legislation, and you have had all kinds of opportunity to change it, as far as I can see.

The other question is with regard to homes for the aged. I would like to know how you decide on appointments to the boards of homes for the aged. What criteria do you use for these appointments?

Mr. Trotter: Retired Tory politicians?

Hon. Mr. Wells: These are the district appointments? I guess, as with all these things, we get suggestions for appointments from many and varied sources, and—

Mr. T. P. Reid: President of the Conservative association.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —the minister recommends the appointments.

Mr. Trotter: The company of old Canadians, the Progressive Conservative Party.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I just point out to you that there have been a lot of difficulties with

the home for the aged board in our area up until a few years ago, when you finally did get some really good people on that board; the situation settled down and the home has been run quite well for the past two years. But, of course, during the past few months you have decided to make another appointment to that board on somebody's recommendation, but it has been made and the fact is that you have had to increase the size of the board to accommodate both the new appointment and one of the other people who was being moved off. Can you explain that situation to me?

Mr. Trotter: That is an embarrassing question.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess the appointment came from the mayor of your fair city.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Oh, he is also a Tory candidate. Is that the problem?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I understand that the person he was appointing was a good Liberal which, if you talk to a lot of our people, they would say that is par for the course.

Mr. R. S. Smith: What was the reason for increasing the number on the board?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They can have from 5 to 7 on the board; I do not think there is any increase on the board. Are there 7 on there now?

Mr. R. S. Smith: There is 1 more than there was previously.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, that is it; it is within the limits allowed. This is possible.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Then there was no specific reason for doing that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: It may just have been that we wanted more people on the board; I do not know that it is—

Mr. R. S. Smith: Did the members of the board request another appointment to the board?

Hon. Mr. Potter: A hell of a big difference!

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, they did.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The members of the board did not request another appointment, but after another appointment was made they requested that the size of the board be increased in order to maintain the people who were on it previously. Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, they wanted Mrs. Campbell back on.

Mr. R. S. Smith: What was the reason for removing her?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know. This all happened before I became minister.

Mr. R. S. Smith: No, no. It happened all in the last 6 weeks.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It was in process at the time.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But it has happened in the last 6 weeks.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, that is not right; it was not in the last 6 or 7 weeks. The previous appointment was made before I became minister and then they asked if Mrs. Campbell could come back on and we agreed. There was provision to have a board that size, so there was no problem.

Mr. R. S. Smith: No problem except that she was moved off for some other reason.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would not have the slightest idea what that would be.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could make a few remarks on this particular topic. The member for Nipissing has raised an issue that is very close to my heart.

The Rainy River District Municipal Union, which represents all the municipalities in the Rainy River district, two years ago recommended two people for the district home for the aged. The recommendations went to the then minister, Mr. Yaremko, and both recommendations were turned down. They were turned down with no good reason being made to the district municipal union. I would suggest to the minister that this, if anything, was most undemocratic and certainly symptomatic of the centralizing tendencies both of his department and the government he represents.

The minister has stated to the member for Nipissing that the situation the member for Nipissing outlined did not happen while he was minister, and the events that I have outlined did not happen while he was minister. In the case of the Rainy River home for the aged, it happened some two years ago. Is the minister therefore willing to state to the committee tonight that the recommendation of the local people, whether it be a municipal union, the district council, the regional government or whatever—will the minister accept

this policy that those recommendations will be accepted, or is he going to continue the practice of out-and-out patronage and political appointment that has characterized this department in respect to the homes for the aged in the past?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would always consider the opinions of local people. We would not make any appointments without consideration of the people who live in the general locality served by these boards, but I would not guarantee that we would accept or reject anybody's specific suggestion. In all these matters we take the advice of many people in the local area and make what we think is the best appointment.

Mr. T. P. Reid: May I ask the minister—we go round and round on these things—whose opinions, first of all, do you solicit in regard to appointments to homes for the aged?

Hon. Mr. Wells: People whose opinion I respect in the area.

Mr. T. P. Reid: I take it that is the president of the local Conservative association.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not say that.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, can the minister explain why the suggestion of the president of the local Tory association should outweigh the collective opinion of the elected representatives of the people who represent that area?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not say that it did.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I am going to tell you something rather interesting, that your local Tory president got fouled up in my particular case because they appointed a Liberal. After all was said and done, they turned down the recommendations of the Rainy River municipal union. The president of one of the Conservative organizations in the district phoned up a man when he did not know really what his political affiliation was and asked him to serve on the home for the aged. As a matter of fact he had run for the Tory candidacy for the next—well, he has run twice now just to get the nomination; he was defeated twice.

Now it was on his recommendation that the appointment was made. If the minister is not willing to give us a commitment here and now, tonight, that henceforward he will accept the recommendations of the elected representatives as represented by a municipal union or the regional government or

some such body that represents the citizens of the area as a whole, then he is obviously willing to perpetuate a system of patronage and political appointment that I suggest to him has no relevancy in this day and age.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Why do you not mouth that off to your brother?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I am not quite sure how that follows, but the minister—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You know how it follows just as well as I do.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I am afraid you have lost me. He does not have anything to do with making appointments to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: He has to do with making quite a lot of appointments in that area.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, if you can suggest some that he has made.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, listen. You know more—

Mr. T. P. Reid: No, I do not. You obviously know more about my riding than I do.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I know quite a bit about the Federal Liberal Party. All I am saying to you is that in these appointments, you know, you like to cast this sort of sinister touch over them, calling it political patronage and that. I am saying what we do is we ask people in the community. They may be elected representatives, councils, everybody.

The input comes in and we then look at somebody who has been suggested to serve and if they are acceptable they are appointed. Now they come from various places and it would not surprise me in the least if, for instance, say, a president of a Conservative association suggested a Liberal for the job. That would be quite in keeping with what some of them would do and there would be nothing wrong with that.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Oh, Mr. Minister.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The minister indicates that he inquires of the people for whom he has respect and then he makes the appointment. Could he tell me what other people he inquired of, for whom he has respect, other than the mayor of the city of North Bay, when he made his last appointment?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not—

Mr. R. S. Smith: Or when the last appointment was made?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not make that appointment.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Okay. Well, who else was inquired of?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I could not tell you. I did not get in on that.

Mr. R. S. Smith: What date was that appointment made?

Hon. Mr. Wells: But anyway that would fulfill your colleague's recommendations. He is an elected representative. He is the head of the municipality of North Bay, so whether he is a Tory candidate or not makes little difference. He is the mayor.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You happen to know that, do you?

Mr. Ferrier: It carries a lot of weight, though.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is all right. He is the mayor so that would fulfill all requirements. If he is the only one, he represented a good community opinion in that area.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would be happy to have any of my friends here submit names. I would be happy to look at them.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Would we have a better chance if we signed them as the head of the Tory organization or should we sign them under our own names?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, why do you not pick a few of your Tories then and recommend them?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, they are all dead in my riding.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I highly suspect that they are not.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You do a pretty good imitation.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Only one person in the district, is that right? Is that what you are telling me?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I am not telling you anything. I am just telling you—

Mr. R. S. Smith: I know you are not telling me anything.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —that there are many, many different sources that these recommendations come from and all we do is pick good people to sit on these boards, which incidentally are not paying jobs. They may have a small travel allowance to them but they are no great jobs of political patronage.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Who do you formulate opinions from? Do you go actively to any group, organization or individual and solicit an opinion or a recommendation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have not to this point, no.

Mr. T. P. Reid: They come in voluntarily and automatically?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have not made any appointments that I can recall.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, we would like to establish a policy here as to what you are going to do. This is the whole point.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I told you what my policy is and you are not going to get me to establish any other policy than the same one.

Mr. T. P. Reid: You stated that your policy is to continue the policy of your predecessor—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not say that.

Mr. T. P. Reid: —to appoint people recommended by the local Tory organization.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are just putting words in my mouth. I said my policy is to consult people whose judgement I have faith in in those local areas, to ask them for suggestions, and the input will come from various sources. I also invited each one of you, if you wish, to submit names to me, to submit them and they will all be part of the input and to this date, and let this be said—

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Let the record show.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, as far as I can recall, I have not signed an order-in-council appointing anyone. Now, I am pretty sure that I did not sign the North Bay one and I know that I have not signed any others to this date, as far as I can recall.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, it has been suggested then in your remarks, by you, Mr. Minister—which I asked you some time ago—that you consult certain people. Can you give us an indication or who it is you consult?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just indicated to you I will consult people on whose judgement I have faith in those areas covered by the board.

Mr. T. P. Reid: So you are trying to tell me that the recommendations of the municipal union in my particular case, whose recommendations have been turned down in the past, you do not consider—

Hon. Mr. Wells: They have not made any recommendations to me.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, all right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not particularly interested in the constitution of the boards for the homes for the aged.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They all do a good job.

Mr. Stokes: I happen to think that the ones in my area do a good job anyway. I am here to discuss the homes for the aged programme in northwestern Ontario. As you well know, there is one for the city of Thunder Bay that takes care of Thunder Bay and the immediate area. They have a separate board that looks after all of the district people who need accommodation and that, too, is located in the city of Thunder Bay.

Now several years ago there were bylaws passed by all of the participating municipalities and a board was constituted. A building was erected in Thunder Bay. It was supposed to be a three-home deal where the first one would be built in the city of Thunder Bay, and two would be built elsewhere within the district, in the more isolated communities, as the need arose. Now, Mr. Crawford, the director for the home for the aged, and I think his assistant—I had a delegation down to meet with Mr. Crawford's assistant about two months ago, and I do not know whether they brought it to your attention—are faced with a dilemma at this time, inasmuch as the home for the aged situated in Thunder Bay—but there primarily to look after the needs of the elderly in the district—is filled to overflowing.

There is a dire need for more space, and of course the participating municipalities are troubled with the dilemma of wondering whether they should put on an addition to the existing one in the city of Thunder Bay or locate one in one of the outside municipalities. Because of the structure of the legislation and the bylaw, in order to change it, or in

order for them to get a sufficient degree of unanimity among themselves, they would all have to agree to build it in another municipality.

Well, there is a need, say, in a place like Geraldton whereby, by the last local census, of a total population of about 3,400 people, there were well in excess of 200 people over age 65, some of them needing that kind of care now and some of them who will be needing it very shortly. So there is an obvious need and every justification for the construction of a home for the aged in the Geraldton area.

The same thing can be said for other areas. Because you have to have, I think, a two-thirds majority for everybody to agree that a home should be built in a particular area, it is pretty hard to get that consensus in order for them to do it. I wonder if the minister is aware of the situation? Maybe Mr. Crawford could speak to this particular problem and assure the people that there will be a home built in the district of Thunder Bay—not in the city of Thunder Bay—to serve the needs of the outlying area.

In order to make the point, I think you must be aware that quite a few of the elderly people who have lived in a small community where they know everybody by their first names, where they can walk down the street and say, "Hi, Joe," or go in and have a cup of coffee and feel quite at home, would move into a home for the aged if it would be located in one of these outlying municipalities. It is almost impossible to get them to consent to move into the city of Thunder Bay because they are not used to that kind of environment.

But as I say, we are faced with this whole dilemma of the restrictiveness of the old legislation that was drawn up some six or seven years ago. I wonder if the minister is aware of the situation and whether he will make funds available and assist municipalities in the outlying district to build homes—not an elaborate one that will accommodate four or five hundred people, but one to suit the needs of the immediate area.

Would the minister be prepared to make a statement?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have got this down in our serious inquiry list at the minute because some of the problems you have outlined as to where this home should be located have not yet been completely solved. But we do have Geraldton marked down as an area where we should do something, and intend to do something.

I do not know how close we are—maybe Mr. Crawford can tell you this—to the agreements as to where, or when, or how the solving of the problem that you stated can be met.

Mr. L. Crawford (Homes for the Aged and Office on Ageing): Mr. Minister, the last I recollect is that Mr. Symington, Mr. Vibert and Miss Lambshire were visiting the municipalities, including Beardmore and Geraldton. They need to get that two-thirds majority of participating municipalities in order to agree on any construction really. We have had discussions about the old Barker residence being renovated in Geraldton and the minister has indicated there is an item in our estimates which could cover this if there is agreement locally.

Mr. Stokes: But why should it be necessary for someone—it could be as high as 12 municipalities stretched over 20,000 or 30,000 square miles—why should it be necessary for all of those municipalities to reach that degree of consensus before an area like Geraldton, which has such an obvious need, can get assistance for such a facility in that area?

It seems to be pretty archaic to me that you should go back to something that might have pertained 10 or 15 years ago and say that people in Manitouwadge should have some say as to whether or not Geraldton needs a home for the aged when the need is obviously there. There has been an assessment made. They have been able to justify their request. But you cannot get that consensus from the other participating municipalities—you know, municipalities are not averse to being sort of dogs in the manger. They say, "Well, sure we all agree that one should be built, but by gosh it had better be built in our municipality."

Mr. Crawford: I think it is a question of cost sharing, Mr. Chairman. The township of Terrace Bay is most reluctant to vote moneys for a capital project in Geraldton, I understand.

Mr. Stokes: Why should they then? Why can you not make the necessary funds available to build a home in Geraldton because there is a need there, without having to convince, say, 11 other municipalities that they should share in it? There are a good many things that happen down here in Metropolitan Toronto that we share—for example, contributing by way of our tax dollars toward the Science Centre, Ontario Place, and what have you, when maybe only

10 per cent of the people living in north-western Ontario will ever see it.

Now we do not mind contributing, but, by the same token, when there is an obvious need for something such as a home for the aged up there we certainly do not feel as though we are coming cap in hand down here to ask you people to subsidize, in a direct way, the construction of a facility that is needed so badly as is a home for the aged in the Geraldton area.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Is not the point, though, that if they went ahead in Geraldton, Geraldton could not finance it completely themselves, could they?

Mr. Stokes: No.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No. They would want all the other municipalities in the district to partake in the financing.

Mr. Stokes: We would like everybody in the Province of Ontario to contribute.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They would in the share that we pay. But you mean you are asking that it be built completely by the Province of Ontario?

Mr. Stokes: Yes.

Mr. Crawford: Mr. Chairman, we already pay in the northern districts more than 50 per cent of the capital cost. That is, we would be paying approximately 70 per cent in the district of Thunder Bay because, for the proportions representing unorganized territory, the province pays 100 per cent. So we are already paying around 70 per cent of the capital in those areas.

Mr. Stokes: But you must realize that the yardstick which you people use down here is not necessarily applicable to the north. The north contributes over \$2 billion of new wealth in the forest product industries and the mining industry every year. Very little of that stays there. All we get is a bunch of slash from our forest operations and we get a hole in the ground from the mining operations. All of the wealth comes down here. It creates new jobs and affluence down here.

We do not share in the good life to the extent that you people down here do, so all I am saying is the formula that might be applicable down here is not necessarily applicable in areas such as Geraldton, which lost its only industry. They are having a devil of a time providing water and sewage

facilities, because they do not have that viability.

They do not have that tax mill, where you have a good industrial, commercial and residential tax mill. So there are a good many services that you have to provide in the north on a different basis, using a different formula and a different schedule. We have people who are paying OHSIP premiums who have to travel 400 miles to see a doctor, and yet nobody down here pays any attention to it.

All I am saying is you must realize that in northern Ontario you have municipalities spread far apart with very little viability. They do not have an adequate economic base and you have to come up with programmes that will suit the need. You must have a sufficient degree of flexibility in your programmes that you will be able to fill that need on some other basis than has been provided elsewhere.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of course, Mr. Chairman, that is why we pay 100 per cent in the unorganized territory because we do recognize the need that you have outlined, but it does not completely solve your problem here.

Mr. Stokes: I think Mr. Crawford had it brought to his attention that there are some elderly people living in shacks on the outskirts of Geraldton and there is not a winter goes by that three or four of those old people have not been burned to death because they were not adequately accommodated; or they have had heart attacks, or ventured out in their underwear and never made it to help but were found frozen to death.

This happens to three or four of them every winter, and I am sure Mr. Crawford is well aware of this. That is why I cannot understand why there is not a much greater degree of flexibility in your programme to provide for such an obvious need.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Trotter:

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, I would like to get into a number of points on this vote because I think the manner in which we make our payments for income maintenance is, in large measure, the way we sort of feed the cancer of built-in poverty which we have in Ontario.

Before I start there are just one or two questions I would like to ask the minister, to be certain of the figures. I understand that under The Family Benefits Act the basic rate

for a single person receiving benefits is \$115 a month. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, that is basic. There are a few exceptions.

Mr. Trotter: All right. Do they often adjust that basic rate for family benefits to make it approximately what the person receiving the old age pension receives, or a person receiving old age security? In other words, is it not normally better than \$115? A little better than \$115?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, with the new old age pension complete GIS supplement it is \$135.

Mr. Trotter: And do you not on occasion adjust your basic single rate from \$115 up to \$135?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have raised that basic for the elderly.

Mr. Trotter: For the elderly?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Trotter: In other words that is age 65?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Trotter: So that if a person is age 50 and unemployed he still would receive \$115 a month?

Regardless of what we may say of teenagers living off welfare—I realize there have been abuses, but I think this part has been exaggerated out of all proportion of what the basic problem is.

For example, you have an unemployed man who receives \$115 a month. I wonder how we expect him, in the city of Toronto or any other municipality, to possibly live? I can see where a 20-year-old who is receiving that amount of money can go out and wash cars, or a teenager can pick up a few extra dollars, but you get many individuals, particularly the women—you take the single woman who is unemployed trying to live on \$115 a month, how can they possibly do it?

Assume that they paid \$10 a week for their room. It is pretty hard to get a room for \$10 a week in the city of Toronto. But if they can get a room for \$10 a week it means that they have \$75 a month on which to buy their food, on which to get clothing and the sundries. It amounts to \$2.50 a day. I wonder how this government would expect anyone to carry on? That \$115 has remained for how many years? How long has that been in effect?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Since April, 1970.

Mr. Trotter: April, 1970. See, even there the cost of living is not taken into consideration and I think one of the great weaknesses is that an individual who is so reduced to being on family benefits or general welfare assistance—there may be a dollar or two difference between the general welfare assistance and family benefits but it is pretty much the same, \$115 a month. Is that not correct?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Right.

Mr. Trotter: Okay. I would suggest to the minister that if he is ever going to bring out a white paper, he is going to have to get at the basic problem of poverty. For example, all the arguing in the world about the teenagers, no matter whether it is right, wrong or indifferent, is still not solving the problem which we have. I would say that for anybody who is unemployed in any municipality in Ontario, particularly in Toronto, and trying to live on \$115 a month, it must be like being dead without being embalmed.

This policy of this government has now gone on for years and years without end. You may say that you are going to look into it, but really it has been so obvious for so long that you have a long way to go. But what is even worse, when you look into the payments, whether it be under family benefits or under The General Welfare Assistance Act, just for curiosity I took a look at what would happen if one had a family of five—two adults and three children. The reason I picked that is that my family happens to be five.

This is what affluent Ontario will do for a family of five with two adults and three children. They are allowed \$185 per month for clothing, food and sundries. For shelter, they are allowed \$95 for heated premises plus \$15 per child; that means \$110 for shelter. Nowhere are you going to get a two-bedroom apartment in this part of Ontario for less than \$145 a month. In other words, obviously in order to pay their rent, unless they are in Ontario Housing, they are going to have to take about \$35 from that \$185 they get per month in order to pay their rent.

I was curious how somebody who had \$185 a month and had a family of five was going to live. One of the best recommendations I could find was in a pamphlet put out by The Ontario Department of Health. I do not want to bring in problems of health

under Social and Family Services. This pamphlet happens to have the name of one hon. Thomas L. Wells on it. It says: "Good Inexpensive Meals for One Week." These were Toronto prices of 1970. You could feed a family of five for \$32 a week, according to it. Mind you, as a special treat, if you wanted a potato-wiener casserole it was a great menu. That was one of the specialties. If a person really knew how to cook and was really a specialist at food, they could probably make the \$32-a-week budget work. It would be possible but most unlikely. But assuming you spent approximately \$130 a month on food, and assuming all the best of the menu that is suggested, it still only leaves a family of five with \$55 for their clothing and sundries.

I do not know how five people can live on \$55 a month. I realize a single individual can go to the Scott Mission for an extra meal. There is no doubt this is how a person who lives on \$115 a month can survive. They can get a good meal at the Scott Mission; but it is pretty hard to take the children down to the Scott Mission to eat.

I think you have to bear in mind, Mr. Minister, that in the city of Toronto alone there are at least 60,000 people receiving assistance—approximately 28,000 families—and I was wondering how you, as a minister, or any government could justify such circumstances under which people are going to live. What concerns me is that over the years we have created a hard core of poverty and we are never going to break out of it. The number of people on welfare are going to stay on welfare and are never going to break out of welfare the way our society is changing, because of the setup of welfare payments that come under this vote. Your income maintenance is just nonsense. Again, bear in mind that if there is a teenager in the family, you might get some extra money, but on the food, for example, that The Department of Health recommends, it assumes that the children are about three years old, nine years old and 12 years old—and those are not the people who are going to go out and raise extra money.

In this province there are literally thousands of people who are living on that type of income and there is no indication from this government whatsoever that any change is going to be made. I think the situation has developed where these people get so much money from the government; then when the money runs out, they will go out to the other volunteer agencies.

I wonder, when the minister represents a government which gave us a place like Ontario Place, how he expects people to live on the \$55 they have left, assuming none of that came for extra rent. My own belief is that they must have to pay at least \$20 to \$30 of that \$55 for the rent because of what rents are here in this part of Ontario.

These people are really poverty stricken but how can they go to Ontario Place? What does it cost to take a child there? Is the entrance fee 50 cents or 25 cents for a child?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Twenty-five cents for the child visiting and \$1.

Mr. Trotter: One dollar for an adult?

Hon. Mr. Wells: One dollar for an adult.

Mr. Trotter: All right. How can you expect these people to participate in any activities in the city of Toronto or the Province of Ontario when they are in such low-income brackets? The truth of it is they are on welfare year in and year out because they cannot get off and they have absolutely no hope of getting off. What is even more serious than this—and this is a political hot potato, because I have tried to get information from hospitals, from nutrition departments, but they do not want to talk to a politician or to anyone phoning on his behalf—are the dangers that arise from the poor nutrition of people who are receiving welfare assistance.

They know for a fact that for pregnant women who are about to give birth and who are underfed the odds now are tremendously in favour that the child will be born with a brain dysfunction. Yet if you want to talk to a nutrition department of a hospital, they do not want to talk to a politician. One doctor said, "It is a political hot potato. Do not quote us." In other words, we as a society are creating and recreating a hard core that is going to exist as long as we use the present system of payments.

Any child from 8 and under who does not receive the proper food that he should have is going to suffer mentally. The odds are that this is going to happen. Certainly it bears out in the number of dropouts we have in our educational system; it is the children from this sector of our society who are first to drop out.

If you want to look at your penal institutions, your training schools or your mental hospitals, you get the same group of people. The great danger—and remember this in one municipality alone—is that you have got 60,-

000 people on the rolls and yet this government has no policy whatsoever, nor are they making any effort to stop it. In essence, what you have done is you have created a cancer and you have not only created it, you are feeding the cancer. The unfortunate part about it is that a certain section of the community says, "You have got all these people committing fraud." When you think of 60,000 people on the rolls in the City of Toronto, if they have a really bad month they might find 50 people out of 60,000, so this matter of committing fraud against welfare is completely exaggerated. What is not exaggerated, what is not emphasized and what is not underlined is that this government really is not getting at the hard core of poverty whatsoever. In fact, it is perpetuating a system that, if allowed to spread, could really envelop the whole society in which we live.

So I must say to the minister, listening to him on his estimates and being really disappointed at his opening remarks, that he really is just looking into it, that he is missing a tremendous opportunity and, not only that, he is ignoring a major problem.

The minister has had the opportunity of being the Minister of Health and if he would even follow the Canada food rules, which are a minimum standard he would know that on this particular estimate he has got a very, very major problem. The only thing that is going to happen under this system is that you are going to continue at the taxpayers' expense—and never forget about that. It is always at the taxpayers' expense—to fill our mental hospitals, our training schools and our penitentiaries. These people are going to remain in the conditions in which they are in, because they have absolutely no incentive or no opportunity to get out of the mess they are in now. They have really no opportunity to learn any different way of life.

I spoke to the minister earlier yesterday about trying to keep people working. I am not just looking for jobs, but this is an instance of a person who was not on welfare but was disabled and was going to lose his job simply because he could not get proper housing. When I mentioned that, the minister brought up the name of Wally Knowles because he has been a worker for disabled people. This also, Mr. Chairman, comes under this vote. There has been a group of disabled people trying to seek assistance from this government. They live on about \$135 a month.

I have just one short page and a few lines more that Mr. Knowles had written in an address to the former Minister of Social and

Family Services. When he made this outline speech it really sums up the difficulty of almost anybody seeking a disability pension, general welfare assistance, or family benefits. I would just like to read what he had to say. He was addressing Mr. Yaremko.

We wish to thank you and your staff for the opportunity of having this meeting to discuss the problems that we, as a group of approximately 4,000 individuals, encounter in day-to-day living, problems which are unique to people in wheelchairs.

You will note from the letter that Mr. Benson received from me the costs of living in a wheelchair. You must appreciate the fact that the cost of living has increased again, and for a person to live in Toronto or out of the city, it is impossible to exist on \$135 a month, and, in some cases, individuals living in wheelchairs do not even receive the maximum allowance of \$135 per month.

I have compiled a list of costs incurred by a single person in a wheelchair for one year, regardless of being male or female. I have done a survey on quite a number of cases to get a true figure, and I still feel that if a person is married he should be classed as a single status so that he can receive the benefits that apply. Below are the figures which apply to nearly all the wheelchair people that are unable to work, or who may be able to do some sort of part-time work only.

Accommodation, which is the big problem, food and phone as well as hydro—\$2,416 per year; clothes, sundries and transportation, approximately \$750. Total amount per year, \$3,166. The present allowance is \$1,620 per year. Surely there could be an amendment to the Act to cover this problem.

If an individual is working, he has to earn at least \$5,800 per year. This is merely to cover living expenses, drugs, surgical supplies and wheelchair repairs, in addition to the cost of running a car or the use of taxis. As of now, tax exemptions are only \$1,600.

It is useless for the government or for us to deceive ourselves in believing that our problem will "iron out" or that we'll "get along somehow" by illegal or immoral means.

With increasing inflation and the unrealistic figure quoted in The Family Benefits Act of 1966 four years ago—

Now it is five years ago—

—this problem cannot be overcome without an enthusiastic effort on behalf of the governmental parties involved.

Then he said:

Note: Discuss subjects of drugs, dental care and housing.

As the minister knows, Wally Knowles heads a group of disabled people. These problems have gone on for a number of years, and I am quite convinced that neither this minister nor this government has any intention of doing anything about it. I had hoped that it being an election year, or close to an election, you would at least drop a few goodies to these people as a bait. It is a cynical way of looking at it, but this is really what happens.

Really there are not going to be any goodies by the look of things for those people who are disabled, for those people who are on general welfare assistance. But what I am even more concerned about is not the goodies, but the fact that you have—and again I emphasize this crisis in values that is particularly with this government—no understanding whatsoever of what is taking place in our society. Again when you think you have 60,000 in one community alone that are eking out an existence, what are you going to expect from them in the long run? What do you expect from their offspring? You are going to get nothing but trouble. Literally, when you even pay out the pittance you are paying, you are really buying trouble. I can well understand the difficulty the social workers have in this province.

For example, when you see the number of appeals allowed by the review board, it must mean that the social workers have a gun at their head to keep down costs. You have turned even your social workers into paymasters, instead of being counsellors as they should be. As a result, you are destroying the whole system in which we live, and not only the system of welfare, but the cancer will grow. You are utterly unaware and the government is completely inept.

You accused me of having blinkers on a while back, but it is more than blinkers that you people have got. You are utterly inept because you do not care and you live in a horse-and-buggy age. You are the people with more than just blinkers on. It is most disturbing, and I think it would be most disturbing for any citizen to sit in and watch what little the government has to offer. I do not expect a new minister to cure everything, but I

expect him to come forward with something. I tell you, when I listened to the Minister of Health (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) bring forward his estimates—and I have no sympathy with Tory Ministers of Health, but I did one thing that I have never done for any minister—I sent him a note congratulating the way he handled his estimates because he would admit the government was wrong in many cases.

Occasionally he even came out and dared to say that he was going to make an attempt to solve something and came out with some answers to make an attempt. This department has no intention whatsoever of solving anything. I am convinced of that. It is the greatest weakness in this government and it is one of the greatest weaknesses in the free society in Ontario, because you will not move and you have no intention of moving. I must say that biased as I am politically against any Tory, I am thoroughly disgusted with the way that this government treats the problem of social and family services in this province, and it is about time you were cleaned out.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Can I ask you something?

Mr. Trotter: Yes, sure.

Hon. Mr. Wells: How can you sit there as a member of the Liberal Party and talk to us about a crisis in values when you belong to a party that plunged this country into the kind of unemployment that we are now experiencing?

Mr. Trotter: All right. I will listen, and I think—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You answer me that and then—

Mr. Trotter: Yes, I am going to answer that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —maybe you will have a little credibility. We are talking about a crisis in values.

Mr. Trotter: I have no hesitation in answering that in this way.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, you answer and tell me then.

Mr. Trotter: I am a representative of the Province of Ontario. I treat it as what the government of Ontario should do for the people of Ontario. I am not here to answer for Ottawa. I think historically I would support the Liberal Party federally. You know, even when we tried to get eye-glasses or dental health for the people of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, 50 per cent

of it comes from the federal government. That may not be enough.

If you want housing, 90 per cent of your housing comes from the federal government, and yet that should be a provincial matter, so that much as I claim the fallacies of the federal government are weak, I realize that what we do get, 90 per cent, even under Ontario Housing Corporation, comes from the federal government. We would not have had health insurance if it had not been for the federal government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess you read the Globe editorial on Saturday.

Mr. Trotter: So do not get me going on defending the Liberal Party. I have no apologies to make for it, but I think when you are dealing with problems of this day and age in the Province of Ontario, it is time we spoke up for the people of Ontario. I do not think that the federal government does enough for the urban problems, but you people do even less, and it is poor satisfaction for anybody in this province, be they Liberal, Conservative, or NDP, to have the policies that we have from this government here.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans.

Mr. Trotter: Just a minute—it is about time this government had the guts enough to face up to its own problems in policy and quit passing the buck to Ottawa. You have one of the strongest financial jurisdictions in all the world in the Province of Ontario and if you had any guts at all you would stand up on your own two feet and speak for the people of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say something. I have tried in bits and pieces throughout these estimates to indicate some of my philosophy for a change but—

Mr. Trotter: You do not have any.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —but it never gets through to the member for Parkdale, who always seems to have blinkers on. I recall talking last week about what I felt was one of our primary aims in the adjustment of income to help the poor—that it had to be through the family allowance scheme, and I will have some very definite, positive things to say about this in the next few weeks.

I think that this all has to be part of a total package and I indicated a lot of things last Friday about the integration of our total

system, about the Canada Pension Plan and Workmen's Compensation, and how these all had to be integrated together. And these are the things that I am hoping we are going to do and in fact we will be doing them, but the point is that it is easy to talk about higher allowances, and it would be very nice.

I, of course, can only operate within the kind of budget that we can acquire. But here is the thing that bothers me: We can talk about higher and higher welfare allowances, but how do we justify this with our whole idea of work incentives? You know, I would just disagree completely with my hon. friend. I think that the higher you get the allowances, the greater will be the poverty cycle, the less will be the incentive to work, so this suggests we have got to build in some work incentives. And this is the kind of thing which I mentioned last Friday, I have looked at the Quebec system that they are proposing and if there is one weakness in it it is again the lack of work incentives. And this is the kind of thing—

Mr. Haggerty: You are suggesting that you do not go along with this business of handing welfare out just to keep them contented for the time being. You are going against your former Premier (Mr. Robarts) of this province I think. He spoke in Kitchener, Ontario, and said, "Well, there is going to be a great number of persons unemployed in the Province of Ontario, so we are going to have to give it to them a handout form." That is just about what he said.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, we do not accept that. What I am saying is that, as I said, when someone asks me what was our basic premise I felt that a good and adequate job was far better to a fiscal transfer and I still accept that premise—

Mr. Haggerty: Well, what he said there, that welfare was—

Hon. Mr. Wells: —and that is what we are working toward.

Mr. Haggerty: —to be a continued programme in Ontario's way of life—

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is all tied in with our negotiations with the federal government at the present time. And contrary to what the hon. member has said, we are presently working on a lot of arrangements that I hope can bring about a much better system for this province. But it is not a thing that you do

in isolation. As I indicated, there are at least eight different support systems all working on the same group of people, or various parts of society, and they are all unrelated at the present time.

We have got unemployment insurance, we have got workmen's compensation, we have the Canada Pension Plan, we have our income support programme, we have got income tax, we have all these things, and they all pay allowances or do something for the people, and yet most of them are unrelated. We have got to bring the system together and we have to get it together so that the maximum assistance can then flow to those people who need it.

And as I indicated earlier, I think one of the big cornerstones of this is going to be the family allowance programme, and you indicated—you did not indicate the amount, but the family that you quoted would of course be getting family allowances now. As you know, the trouble with the universal family allowance system that we have in this province at the present time is that it is going to everybody, and probably 75 to 80 per cent of people who are not in the category that really need it, and—

Mr. Deans: I do not agree.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am saying that they, do not all need it completely. A great group needs it to a certain degree, but there is a great group at the bottom of the system that needs a much greater support, because it is the family part that throws the whole system out. That is where you get tied up in this work incentive programme, because there is no question that if you take even our allowance programme—you may disagree with me on the amounts we have—but even on our allowance programme, say for a man with nine children, he is going to be much better off on our system if he is an unskilled worker than he is at a job that he is able to get, because the job is going to be geared to paying one man to do one job, whereas our system is based on family support.

So if we can take that out and place it so that he is going to be able to work at that job and yet through a system of family income supplement, like the family allowance, is able to look after his children under that system adequately, it is going to perhaps help build in another work incentive, because—

Mr. Trotter: Well, now, at this time where a man who, say, is a truck driver and can only earn so much, has a large family and

would be better off on welfare, do you not now have a scheme where you supplement his wages?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we do not supplement his income.

Mr. Trotter: Did not Mr. Yaremko indicate—you still have not started that?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, because here again, when you start looking at these schemes you have to be sure that they do indeed serve as an incentive to work, not an incentive to work less and get larger supplementation.

Mr. Trotter: You do not even have a pilot project, you are just talking. There have been other jurisdictions where they found that if a man could stay at his job instead of paying him all of his welfare they would at least bring him up to welfare rates, or a little better, to encourage him to work. How many more theories do you need?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have a supplemental project that we are considering.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, but you are considering looking into it. Mr. Yaremko, I understood—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not say I am considering looking into it.

Mr. Trotter: I thought he was really going to start this.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have to sit here all the time; you fellows move back and forth.

I explained all this the other day. The project is ready, the groundwork has been laid. I am just waiting for final word to see if the federal government is going to pay 50 per cent of the cost and when this is done we will then make up our minds to go ahead.

Mr. Trotter: All right. Here is something that is not so revolutionary, does not take a great deal of change.

Why is it that when a municipality wants to cover people for dental care or for eyeglasses or for drugs and has a scheme like the city of Toronto, which costs them \$2 million, half of which comes from the federal government, why cannot the province participate in that and encourage other municipalities to do the same? That is nothing revolutionary.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean the special assistance?

Mr. Trotter: The special assistance.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I indicated that this afternoon to you, too.

Mr. Trotter: Yes, I heard you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: What did I say?

Mr. Trotter: You just gave me a non-answer, so far as I was concerned.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not give you a non-answer. I told you I felt that it was a mistake that we were not doing it. You see, you never listen to the things when I do say them. I told you this afternoon it was a mistake that we were not doing it and that I was going to try and see if we could not correct it. I told you that this afternoon, so do not keep coming back here telling me that I never say anything.

Mr. Trotter: I am telling you again, you are not doing anything.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You did not listen. You just do not listen.

Mr. Trotter: I certainly was listening. It is pretty obvious you are doing nothing.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I repeat everything 15 times and you still do not hear it, because you have blinkers on.

Mr. Trotter: You are a worn-out old Tory.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are still back in the nineteenth century.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Chairman, the one problem with everything that has been discussed is how do you have a work-generating programme if there is not any employment? The rest of your government is letting you down, even if you wanted to go ahead and do what you are saying. I do not want to talk about that anyway. I want to talk about something else.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right and that is precisely what has happened to some of the experimental programmes that have been going on in other parts of the country right now, they have failed to be a good viable experiment because of the unemployment rate.

Mr. Deans: And instead of trying to stimulate employment there has been a certain lacking on the part of both the Liberals and Conservatives.

Anyway, that is beside the point. It is hard for me to be rough on you tonight considering the Brant experience.

I want to read to you some letters because I want to talk to you for a moment or two about a man who was disabled, who is unable to earn any kind of a living that we can find out, and who had to receive benefit from The Family Benefits Act. I want you to listen to their letters because I found them incredible. They have been dealt with. Mr. D, his name is, and he is a family benefit number 556878F. Let me read: Starting on October 9, 1970, he got a letter:

Your situation has been reviewed with regard to earnings submitted.

He did not have any, it was his wife's earnings.

We have calculated an additional allowance from February, 1970, to August, 1970, in the amount of \$200. A cheque to cover is enclosed.

As of October 1, 1970, your allowance has been increased to \$100.33 per month. This will be the amount of the cheque you will receive at the end of October, 1970—

And they point out that there is a card in there for some reason.

Great stuff; he gets \$100.33 a month starting October 9, 1970, and in addition to that he got a cheque for \$200 because of a recalculation of his entitlement. That meant he went from approximately \$70 a month to \$100 a month.

On November 9 he gets a letter:

Dear Mr. D:

We wish—

Hon. Mr. Wells: When was the other letter from—

Mr. Deans: That was October 9, 1970. On November 9—one month later—he gets a letter:

We wish to advise you that the allowance you are receiving under The Family Benefits Act has been increased to \$102.33 per month, effective from November 1, 1970, for the following reasons. Danny has been deleted from the allowance and all benefits as he did not return to school.

I do not know how he managed to get an increase.

The board and lodging charge for Patricia has been decreased. The cheque which you will receive at the end of November will be in the amount of \$102.

And there is a card enclosed. That is on November 9.

On February 1—two months later:

Dear Mr. D:

We must advise that the allowance you are receiving under The Family Benefits Act has been decreased to \$30.43 per month effective February 1, 1971. This action has been taken due to the increase in your wife's earnings.

We will talk about her earnings in a minute.

We must further advise that an overpayment in the amount of \$197.39 has been established and is outstanding. In order to recover this overpayment, regular monthly deductions in the amount of \$5 will be made from your eligible rate of assistance commencing February 1.

Now, here is the guy. It goes on to say that the cheque for February and subsequent cheques will be issued in the amount of \$25.43 until such time as the full recovery of the overpayment is effected.

Now let us go back a moment so we get the thing. On October 9, he got a cheque for \$200 from the department which he used to pay his taxes. In addition to that he got an increase of \$30. One month later, he got another increase of \$2. Two months later, he owed them \$197 and his entitlement was reduced from \$100 to \$30.43 and subsequently, in order to recover the overpayment, to \$25.43. Then on March 5, he gets a letter—this is a month later again.

This is further to our letter of February 1. A review of the allowance you are receiving under The Family Benefits Act has been completed. We wish to advise that the allowance you are presently receiving is the maximum allowance your circumstances will permit under the Act. The overpayment of which you were advised in our letter mentioned above is outstanding in the amount of \$248.99 and not \$197.39 as previously advised. We will continue to recover this at \$5 per month until the full recovery is effected.

They go on to say how nice it is to deal with him. I bet it is.

I am going to tell you something. This woman's earnings are \$316 a month. She has to work pretty damn hard for that \$316. It is pretty tough to make ends meet on that kind of money. I am going to say that all of this nonsense that you went through with this guy has done absolutely nothing for his health or his peace of mind.

The \$200 that he got in October last that you took back—plus \$43 in February—surely to goodness could not have been of such importance that it was worth all of the disruption and heartache that it has caused. The \$25 that you send him is a meaningless token gesture for a man of some 50 years of age who had worked all of his life; who was dislocated from his employment because the company that he worked for closed down; who could not work again because he has multiple sclerosis; who has a family at home—I think two small children are left at home, plus one daughter being married this year. The whole thing is such an aggravation.

How can your department possibly make such a mess of determining the entitlement of any person over a four-month period? How can you possibly start in October of one year with \$70 and end up in February of the following year with \$30—\$25 actually—and owe the government \$240? I am not really too interested in knowing how you calculated.

I am convinced now, after dealing with the department, that the calculation was made—that the final figure is unchangeable; that that is the end of it and that is all he is going to get. I am going to tell you, on his behalf, that as far as the payment he is getting is concerned it is useless. It is meaningless in relationship to his disability and in relationship to his need. His wife now has to work day and night in order to earn enough for them to live, continuously. She was earning something like \$1.65 an hour and working long long hours to earn \$316. They have payments just like everyone else. The only thing that saved them is he built his own home and I think that by now he has it paid off. I think he has, but you can just imagine the feeling that this man has in trying to provide for his family with that kind of a lousy, meagrely allowance given by the Province of Ontario. Now, if his wife quit work, they might—

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): The NDP will have legislation to fit every situation.

Mr. Deans: Why do you not go tend your sheep?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans has the floor.

Mr. W. Hodgson (York North): A pretty insulting remark by the member from Wentworth.

Mr. Deans: Listen; it is not half as bad as I feel, believe me.

Mr. W. Hodgson: We did not expect it from him.

Mr. Deans: Now you know better. I say to you that I cannot for the life of me understand how in that short period of time there could have been such a mess made of this guy's life, and it was a mess. It is a callous way to deal with people. Why, the man is only getting \$30 and when the total income of a family runs at something like less than \$5,000 a year, including the benefit, it is a pretty hard-hearted way to deal with an individual.

I notice in your estimates that there is a non-recoverable overpayment and I am suggesting to you that in a situation such as this, it is out of that kind of an allowance that that ought to have been paid. It was through no fault of his that he got more money. He did not ask for the \$200. He did not even ask you to review the case, for heaven's sakes. He was perfectly satisfied with his \$70 a month. He did not think it was very much, but he thought it was all right. He was at least getting something to put into the household expenses to cover the costs. To turn around at this point and to give him \$200 with which he dashes out, pays his taxes, thinks at last I can contribute something to the family income and then within two months to find himself not only owing you the \$200 but owing you in excess of the \$200 and receiving only a quarter of what he was previously getting, I just do not think that is how you deal with people.

That is an indication of the way that this government intends to deal with people in need. These are not bums. This is a guy who would work if there was something he could do. If that is the way that the government wants to deal with these kind of people, then I say to you, that all of the nice things that you have said tonight about all of the things that you are going to study and all of the changes that you are going to make are meaningless, because when somebody needs you the most, you are not there to help him. I am really disappointed in the way that this—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that I can completely sympathize with you. I think that it is a heartless thing to do in this regard, but I just also have to point out to you that, I would like to see the whole story.

Mr. Deans: I will give you the whole story.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is very easy to draw, the letters that you want. I would like to see what our people say.

Mr. Deans: Okay. I have ready for you every letter.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All right, but I would still like to see that. But I also point out to you the real problems from where we sit. It is easy for us to say just write off that allowance, write off that overpayment, but we just cannot do that.

Mr. Deans: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As a government, we cannot do that. The auditors will not allow us to do that. We can only pay within the legislation and the regulations that we have. I would like to be able to write off all these things.

Mr. Deans: It is not a matter of what I would like to do. I want to go back to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is a matter—but sure, I would like to be able to, for every one of these that occurs. If I say, you know, somebody made a mistake and we paid them \$200 or more, we can just write that off; it is too bad. But we just cannot do that and you know that.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you return that portion to the federal government when you come and take this back? Actually, you are garnisheeing that person's assistance.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Certainly we return it. As a matter of fact—

Mr. Haggerty: No, you do not return it—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Certainly. That is all counted.

An hon. member: That is not the information that I have.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No. That is all counted in, certainly.

Mr. Haggerty: You are making money on the deal.

Mr. Deans: Can I finish this, please?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Deans: I want to —

Hon. Mr. Wells: Wait a minute. Just let me get that—

Mr. R. S. Smith: A little order here, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, overpayments; the federal government get their part back. It is all—

Mr. Whitney: Well, that is great. They could well do without it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just wanted to correct that. Somebody said that we did not return it.

Mr. Deans: In this situation—in all fairness to you, I mean, I understand that you cannot go handing out money where it is not justified. I understand that. In the four letters that I read, and I believe them to be the only four letters that were sent during that period, I believe that this is true. I am not trying to mislead you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I am sure you are not. But I would like to find out from our side what our staff reports show; why there were the changes.

Mr. Deans: There is something wrong in the operation because every letter is signed by a different person, every letter comes over a different signature. Now, they are all signed for the director, which is great stuff, but that does not mean that the director has anything to do with it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not think anybody has ever felt that all the cases were always, every time, handled by the same person.

Mr. Deans: You would agree, though, that in four months when a review is being undertaken, surely it would make some sense that the review be undertaken by an individual so there would be continuity? I mean, it began on October 9 and it said: "Your situation has been reviewed—"

Hon. Mr. Wells: It does not necessarily follow that it has to be by one person.

Mr. Deans: No, but this is at the beginning. "Your situation has been reviewed with regard to earnings submitted." I assume, at that point, that the review was done. I can only assume from what you say in the letter; it says a review was complete. "Your situation has been reviewed." And upon reviewing it, they determined that he is entitled to additional benefit from the month of February to the month of August. Okay. If that has been decided, how then can a review the following month change it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, somewhere there must have been additional information.

Mr. Deans: Well, fine, but the additional information gave him more.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is why I say I would have to get it out and give you our sequence of events as to why this happened. I think you realize that reviews come up in all ways and, you know, we receive letters, for instance, and these are very isolated cases, and your responsibility is to follow them all up. We will get a letter saying: "There is a Mrs. Jones on a mother's allowance in your area, but I know she works under another name at a job and that she is also collecting unemployment insurance here," and these things come in and they are reviewed all the time for various reasons.

Mr. J. L. Brown (Beaches-Woodbine): But this is pretty typical, the department is just inefficient.

Mr. W. Hodgson: Misinformation in the first place.

Mr. Brown: The department is just bungling. If you saw it anyplace else, like if you saw it in the NDP caucus, you would call it bungling.

Mr. W. Hodgson: A lot of bungling stuff there.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Deans: Can I ask one final question?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would not make any comments till I see the file from our department as to why—

Mr. Deans: I do not ask you to comment. I will give you this file if you will return it to me. I would like to ask you—

Hon. Mr. Wells: All we need is the number.

Mr. Deans: All right, I will give you the number. Would you please look into this and tell me tomorrow if you can or as quickly as you can in the committee what happened?

Mr. Carruthers: Mr. Chairman, in my experience I have had a great many of these and I have had a large number of pension problems of veterans' widows from the federal government and the same thing applies.

Mr. Brown: The same bungling.

Mr. Carruthers: The same thing applies, the reports come in, the information changes from time to time and a review shows that they are not entitled to it.

Mr. Deans: You surely would admit that when a review is completed on the—

Mr. W. Hodgson: There is not full disclosure in the first place.

Mr. Carruthers: Mr. Chairman, how is this information—

Mr. Deans: —on October 9 and another review is completed on November 9, and another review is completed on February 1, and

another is completed on March 1, and in the intervening period there is such a change in the person's—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Carruthers: Mr. Chairman, how is this information for review obtained?

Mr. Whitney: You need a lot of reviews.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Let me get the information and I will tell you why it was reviewed.

The committee adjourned at 10.28 o'clock, p.m.

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Social and
Family Services

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1971

The committee met at 3:40 o'clock, p.m., in committee room No. 1; Mr. O. F. Villeneuve in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES

(continued)

Mr. Chairman: We are going to call this meeting to order. We have a quorum. Mr. Haggerty was first on the list for this afternoon.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My remarks will be brief. My concern is that I have run into this problem dealing with persons receiving welfare assistance, and this is the form that is called The Public Health Act application for free supply of insulin.

I think the minister is aware that in some municipalities persons receiving this assistance can go directly to the municipality and get it, as long as it comes through a prescription. Now there are about 13 branches in all of Ontario where you can receive this. In other municipalities one must deal through The Department of Social and Family Services branches, and sometimes I find this is an inconvenience for persons who need this insulin. Particularly in the Niagara region, I know, speaking of residents living in Crystal Beach, they have to report to a regional office in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and this is a matter of 25 to 30 miles away, and sometimes the social worker will drop in to the person and leave the application form there. It must be signed by the physician and it must be signed by the clerk of the municipality—I presume in this case it will be the welfare minister, so it has to go back to his office. Now sometimes this is 10 or 12 days away or longer than that.

In this particular case, dealing with this one person who needed it, she was running short on the supply. I notified the welfare administrator about it and nothing had been done for about 10 days. So the second time I phoned him up I said: "Well, I will leave the onus on you, that you get this form

completed." The person was running out of insulin and it could cause death.

I think there must be an easier way to go about this.

I have a resolution here from the Niagara regional health unit. It says here—I will read the resolution:

That the board of health of the Niagara Regional Area Health Unit believes that the present method of distribution of insulin to medically indigent persons (Public Act Regulation RSO 283-64) creates a hardship for these persons because of the monthly nature of the distribution and the difficulty of travel to various locations for signature of forms, and that this Regulation also sets these people apart from the general public because they cannot purchase insulin supplies at a retail pharmacist.

We therefore resolve that the legislation should be changed to allow insulin to be distributed in a more equitable and less time-consuming manner.

And they suggested, I think, that it could be handled at the local doctor's office, or physician's through the different medical clinics throughout the area. I think these persons have to go in for checkups and there is no reason why it could not be passed on to them then.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Social and Family Services): I will look into this and see if I can do something about it.

Mr. Haggerty: You are going to look into this then?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: The other matter I wanted to talk about was what the hon. member for Wentworth (Mr. Deans) discussed last night about the problems some persons on welfare receiving family benefits have in their payments.

I have a number of cases on file, similar to those he mentioned last night, where these persons get a report from The Department of Social and Family Services telling

them that their benefits will be increased so much this month, next month it is reduced, and then it is reduced further in the winter months, and believe me I cannot see why they should be reduced in the winter months at all.

In some cases, particularly of those persons, say, at the age of 65 receiving old-age security pensions, if their spouse, or wife, happens to come into the picture and she comes off of The Department of Social and Family Services and received old age security pension, all of a sudden there is their notice sent out to them that there is an overpayment. And I found out through The Department of Social and Family Services—I guess they have methods, ways of getting this money back, and one method is they almost go out and garnishee the old age security cheques. I understand that there is an agreement with the federal department that they can go out and if there is \$5, they can take \$5 a month off a person receiving old age security to pay back to provincial welfare.

I do not think this is necessary. Those persons cannot afford to pay back. In the first place they have not sufficient income to live on without taking it away from them. Have you any comments on that, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, as I understand it this is something that Ottawa does under these remaining categorial programmes. If there is an overpayment when they switch to the old age security, Ottawa has this arrangement; they deduct the money and then give us the share.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought it came from your branch here, that you requested it, not Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Not from old age security pensions.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, that is funny. The letter comes from a person in your department.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Is this on old age security?

Mr. Haggerty: No. Apparently they were receiving—

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): Supplement.

Mr. Haggerty: No, not supplement. They were receiving assistance from Social and Family Services, and then they went on to old age security pension and all of a sudden

there was a payment of about one month which perhaps they should not have got, and the first thing you know your department is saying: "There is an overpayment and we want this back." So they take it, \$5 a month. Sometimes it is \$15 a month.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We ask for it back, but I do not think we deduct it from the old age security cheques. We do not get our hands on those.

Mr. Haggerty: I understand from this one particular case it is taken off the old age security cheque.

Hon. Mr. Wells: But, as I say, Ottawa will do that.

Mr. Haggerty: But on your request. From your department here.

Mr. M. Borczak (Deputy Minister): Mr. Chairman, the arrangement whereby overpayments are recovered from the old age security pension relate to what are referred to as the categorial programmes. These were the former old age assistance blind and disabled persons allowances programmes, and as the minister mentioned, I believe yesterday, when an overpayment occurs in those programmes there is a mandatory requirement in the federal law to recover them. When the person transfers to old age security the federal government makes arrangements to recover the overpayment by reducing the amount of the old age security pension that is paid.

Under The Family Benefits Act, where an overpayment occurs, then the department makes recovery in a variety of ways. If the person is still in receipt of assistance then the allowance is reduced by a sum—perhaps \$5 or some higher sum.

If the person transfers to old age security no arrangement is made to recover the overpayment from the old age security cheque. There are no deductions, to my knowledge, in any such cases at all. We do ask the person for a refund of the overpayment. If he arranges the refund, either in instalments or in total, then we in turn reimburse the federal government their share of that amount, but if the person is not able to repay the overpayment—say that he is not able to—then the matter has to stand.

Mr. Haggerty: That is the information that is passed on to me from the departments that they cannot be reclaimed. They just throw that away and say forget about

it; but this is not what they do, they keep sending letters to them demanding that they want this payment. How can they pay on \$105 a month? Or, in some cases, \$80 a month? You ask them for \$80 back, and stretch it over a period of five to 10 months, at \$5 a month or something like this. This is just ridiculous.

Mr. Deans: Is there not something in the mechanism that you have that can be altered to try to eliminate these kinds of problems? I understand you are going to answer my question of yesterday and I will wait for you to do that of course.

I think that in the whole mechanism of transferring from one category of assistance to another, or from one level of government to another, or in the determination of the amounts that can be granted to individuals under special circumstances, there has to be a complete review of that mechanism in order to try to do away with the problem—or at least as much as possible—to eliminate the problem of reclaiming moneys from people who are obviously living pretty close to the poverty line anyway.

It is hard enough to meet your bills on a month-to-month basis without having to suddenly meet an additional levy levied against you by the government. I cannot help thinking that somewhere along the way there has to be a level established, a minimum level of income for the family. Having done that—and we are back again to the problem of a guaranteed annual income of some kind, but I do not know how you are going to do it—at some point we establish the minimum level, determining that, regardless of overpayment, no repayment will be requested unless that minimum level had been reached, even though the person may not have qualified for a sufficient amount to raise them to that level. This has been a round-about way of saying it but—

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is only one thing that you have to remember. You are sort of automatically assuming that all the overpayments are our fault.

Mr. Deans: No, not at all.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Some of them are due either to forgetfulness on the part of recipients or deliberate forgetfulness. You know we have certain responsibilities, as I say, to administer the programme and—

Mr. Deans: I appreciate that some people attempt to fleece the plan.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not saying they fleece, but they just forget. I am not talking about the straight out-and-out cases of fraud that might come along. They just do not report some of the changes that occur.

Mr. Deans: There are some problems, and one of the problems is this—that when your calculations are based on earnings it may well be that a person could, by guessing, think that by calculating the number of dollars and cents per hour over the number of hours that they are likely to work over the next month, they would get more money.

Now generally speaking the people we are talking about are people who work in industries and in more pay manufacturing concerns, if they are working at all. I am talking about where you are using the two sides to calculate it; or, in the case of the elderly, they are not absolutely sure when they will receive their first cheque. You never are.

You make application and you assume you are going to get it during the month of October, but it may come on October 10 and then again it may not come until October 28. Until you have actually received one cheque you are never positive at what time of the month you are going to get that cheque. By the time they get it, they have already received their payment from you as the department.

It is not really their fault that they got an overpayment. They have also had to use that money in order to meet their commitments and the money that they are getting is minimal enough as it is.

Then you go back to them and demand some repayment from an amount which will in the future be approximately what they were getting previously. In other words, if they were getting \$80 from the department and they go on old age pension, in this instance, and they then receive \$80 again, there may be a month in which they got \$160. It may well be, but you know, even at \$160 they are not going to live high off the hog. They are not eating over at Sutton Place on that kind of money. They are, generally speaking, not spending it on anything that is not required.

There is going to have to be a transitional period, and there has to be a better understanding by the department as a person comes close to the age of receiving the old age pension—and this is all a matter of record. As he presently comes close to that age, there has to be communication between the provincial department and the federal department to

determine on what date he will be receiving his cheque.

Then the adjustment should be made to coincide with that particular thing rather than leave the onus on the individual. When you have just a tiny wee bit of money to work on and you get a little extra, it is pretty tough to give it back.

It is hard, and the temptation is difficult. After they have spent it—I can hardly blame them—to take it off them again when they are only getting \$80 or \$100 is a real hardship. I feel that in that area there has got to be a much closer relationship between your department and the federal department in determining the date upon which the payment would be made and the adjustment made to coincide with that date.

Secondly, the other instance—I will let you answer first; I want to discuss it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot disagree with you and I think we have to work toward that. You will recall a few days ago I said this was one of the biggest weaknesses in the whole system—that none of the systems interrelate. Ottawa runs a system called the old age security guaranteed income supplement system, which is run apart and separate from our other systems. You have to try and mesh these together. I think that somewhere they should be automatically meshed together.

Mr. Deans: This is—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is the way we can arrive at this. I mean, even if a person does not go on the old age pension until the other system—you know, they are off it, or they are meshed in. But they have not been particularly willing to want to mesh them together, either. It is a case of trying to get all these systems so that they all go together—unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation, the whole thing—because they all adjust and change allowances. You get into these overpayments and so forth when there is a month when somebody thought that they were not getting something and then they find they were getting an unemployment benefit or workmen's compensation. Somebody makes an adjustment and they go on—

Mr. Deans: I understand what is happening. It is just unfortunate, though, that when you are doing this you are dealing with people who actually do not have anything to begin with, for the most part. When you take something from nothing you have got very little left; and that is what happens, you know, you get so—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot answer, except that we are tied with the problem. When you are a public body using public money, you have to have certain ground rules. It is very hard to have the discretionary power with any civil servant or with a minister or anywhere. They would just automatically say, "Well, we overpaid you, so, you know, let us forget about it." I do not know just how we would work that out.

Mr. Deans: Would it be imposing to ask you to deal with the problem of last night? Would you be able to do that, simply because it ties in so closely and we could clear it all up?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Would you give me just a minute? I am sorry. I have been out of town since I left this committee last night until the very minute I got here and I just want to get the file on it.

Mr. Deans: If you want to leave it until after 6, then we can do it—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will see.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, another problem I find in many cases is where persons are involved in an automobile accident. Of course, there is a time-lag there for settlement in the courts for the compensation benefits. I find sometimes that these persons have to go to welfare to look after their family needs. There is an agreement, usually signed with The Department of Social and Family Services, demanding that as soon as this settlement is paid, you pay all this back.

I know of two particular cases in my area. One fellow received \$17,000. He had been in the courts for about three years and by the time he got through paying the lawyer's bill, paying what welfare wanted back, he ended up with nothing. Not a cent.

He had to go and get another mortgage placed on his second mortgage on his own home. He had to go further into debt and he was hoping that when he finally got this settlement he was going to pay some of this back, but not in this case. It was the welfare department of Social and Family Services that was there waiting for that cheque.

Now if you sit down and look at his income, perhaps he was earning \$600 a month and what he received from The Department of Social and Family Services may have amounted to \$300. Still, he was short the \$300 that he should have been earning if he was employed, if it had not been

through this accident. No consideration is given to that.

I find cases where, on appeal to the Workmen's Compensation Board, a claim was established, and this has been almost three years in the making. He had to go on welfare to get a cheque of some \$200.

The Department of Social and Family Services grabbed him, took that cheque before he even signed it himself. "That is ours," is what they said. I think this is ridiculous. I mean, that person and that family has suffered through injury.

It is the fault of the compensation board in not living up to their commitments and that person should not have to go on welfare. When he received that cheque, he should not have to come back and give it to The Department of Social and Family Services. Again, if you look at his income—the cheque was in the amount of \$200 for six weeks or something like that, for a partial disability, but they came and took that. In all hopes, he was looking forward to this money; he thought, "Well, I will get the things that my family needs" but there is no way with this agreement that is signed by this department.

Again I question it; you say you do refund that portion to the federal government. I kind of doubt it, but I mean this, I do not think it is right. I think there should be a complete reassessment in such claims as this; that you have to take in his earnings before the injury, or before the accident, and combine that with what he received as welfare. I am sure welfare does not pay him as much as if he is working in industry today.

To come in and say, "We will give you welfare but we will hold this axe over your head—as soon as a settlement is made, we want that." How many other persons are there in this province who receive welfare and then go back to work? Do you go and ask them for that repayment back? No.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, this matter, as I understand it, has been going on—as the hon. member stated, there is no provision in The General Welfare Assistance Act that permits it. Now, we do not do it. We do not do this for our family benefits.

Mr. Haggerty: This is what the former minister said.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We do not do it, but the municipalities have been doing it as

part of their administration of The General Welfare Assistance Act, but there is no provision in the legislation. You know, if any fault can be attached to us, it is that we have not stopped municipalities from doing this because they, in their own wisdom, have decided that they wanted to do it, I guess, for the—

Mr. Haggerty: Well, they could—there is no reason why they could not try to claim the 20 per cent. But they should not claim the 80 per cent. They are making money—

Hon. Mr. Wells: They could—they pay that back to us, yes. They do not keep that. They have to pay it back if they claim it but, I guess, you can see, from their point of view, what they have done is they see someone, who finally settles an automobile claim, who has had a payment to cover his time off and so forth. It settles for \$20,000 or something and they feel that he should reimburse them for the money that they have sort of advanced him on that proposition.

Now, there also is unemployment insurance. I suppose that if a person has unemployment insurance, and he is getting it, and he applies for general welfare assistance, that gives him a certain level of assistance; whereas, if he has no unemployment insurance, he gets a greater level. Now if some person takes three or four weeks to get his unemployment insurance claim settled and then it is settled retroactively from the beginning and he has been getting the welfare assistance, he is a little further ahead than the guy who happens to have had his claim settled right away and goes on welfare assistance, too.

I am just saying this is probably what goes through the minds of the welfare administrators but, as I say, there is nothing in the Act that sanctions this. It has been just a practice that has been going on. Indeed the board of review and other bodies recently have been pointing this out to areas. A lot of people, it is reported to me, have been refusing to sign these, so that I think you will probably find that the whole thing is going to end unless some provision is put absolutely in legislation, and we are not thinking of that at the present time.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, if it is not there, how can they—

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is not prohibited to us. It is not prohibited but it is not agreed.

There is nothing in the legislation that talks about it so it is something that they have just done. As I say the boards of review, in reviewing cases in this area, have not sanctioned it and you know, the word has got around, and people are not signing these.

Mr. Haggerty: In this particular case, the fellow who was injured, I think, has had two operations on his back since the accident and he is unable to work and he has lost everything through this. They were right there when that cheque was cashed and signed by him. It went to The Department of Social and Family Services.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, to the municipal welfare—

Mr. Haggerty: The municipal welfare branch of The Department of Social and Family Services.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is a slight difference.

Mr. Deans: He can collect compensation, too.

Mr. Haggerty: In both of these—I mean, they are right there ready to put their claws right out.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I said, I think you will find the practice is decreasing. Unless we were to take some steps to formalize it in legislation, which I do not see us doing at this time—

Mr. Haggerty: It has not decreased in my area, that is for sure.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will put it on to chat about with some of the municipal welfare people. I think I outlined to you the other side of the story—that they sit there and see that it perhaps gives some people an unfair advantage over others in the amount of payment that they get.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Reid, would you try to speak in the mike? I think they are having a little trouble hearing.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Chairman, can I speak about the mentally retarded? Can I go on to that vote? Is that all right?

Mr. Chairman: Which one?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Under residential care and services for adults.

Mr. Chairman: Adults, it says.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Thank you. I will be brief. Mr. Chairman, I raised certain problems with the Minister of Health (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence) two or three weeks ago during his estimates in regard to the mentally retarded. He promised me at that time that he would have a statement dealing with the mentally retarded in the Province of Ontario.

That statement is still not forthcoming but he indicated at that time that there were certain matters which came under the purview of the Minister of Social and Family Services. I would like to elicit some information and ask the minister what his department is doing in regard to two areas: one, particularly in regard to adult rehabilitation centres and capital grants to such centres, and grants to the people who run and who are the workshop instructors in these ARC industries, as they are generally referred to.

Going through the public accounts for 1970, I see that the total grants, both grants to agencies and capital grants, come to a little over \$1,029,000; the bulk of that being grants to agencies which deal primarily with the mentally retarded.

I also understand that your department provides a pension of \$105 per month to the mentally retarded under The Disabled Persons Allowances Act and that people who are in the workshops in the ARC industries receive \$24 a month, and that the workshop itself receives \$25 per month per trainee. It seems to me that this is a pretty meagre pittance, particularly in those areas outside of the cities where facilities are expensive and where there are not large numbers either to support these ARC industries or to use the facilities that are available.

I wonder if the minister can indicate if there is any chance, or if his department has anything in the works, first of all, to increase the grants on a training basis to the adult rehabilitation centres?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are talking about the \$25 per person grant?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is nothing in this budget to increase that grant. The budget we are voting here today is predicated on the \$25 per person grant.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Are you looking at anything for next year in regard to this?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I would like to see that increased to some figure, but until I get

into preparing next year's estimates and get them all before Treasury—

Mr. T. P. Reid: So people can look forward to some kind of an increase?

Hon. Mr. Wells: All I can tell you is that—

Mr. T. P. Reid: If it is passed by cabinet?

Hon. Mr. Wells: All I can tell you is that it is an area that I think we should increase, and hopefully we could do this.

Mr. T. P. Reid: How about increasing grants to instructors, particularly in the rural areas, such as the one I represent? The high cost of running these workshops is dependent pretty well on the cost of the instructors, and many people are working at very small wages because the local association cannot afford to pay them any more, and these people, while they are competent are really, to my mind, underpaid. What kind of a grant does the department make as far as instructors are concerned for these ARC industry workshops?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The salaries for instructors, that is what the \$25 per person grant is; that includes the service of instructors. That is a per capita grant to the people who are there and it is for the services of instructors or for whatever they want to use it.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, well you realize that that is hardly scratching the surface of the problem?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I realize it does not. In some cases it is 16 to 25 per cent of the cost of the total operating budget.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I would say in some cases it is even more than that. You know, the local Kinsmen club in my area has supplied a building and services and volunteer help and so on. They have been of very great help to the local association. But there are so few people who are affected in my particular area that they have to bear the cost almost themselves, the whole cost of running the workshop and paying the two instructors there, and it is quite a financial burden. Along with the heartache and the problems of having a retarded child or adult, they also have to shoulder the burden of this high cost. I would like to ask if you have given any consideration to making special grants available to, let us say for want of a better word, low density area workshops?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we have not considered that. I suppose it is a possibility but we have not considered it.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Will you consider it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: What do you mean by low density—like Rainy River?

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, where the population is sparse and where the number of people who deserve the opportunity are also relatively few in number.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would have to look into it and see if in fact there is need for increased grants. I think, if you recall the history of this—and as I say, you can make a good case for increasing these per-capita payments and I think that we are going to have to work toward that—the history of this was that we relieve the local associations of the cost of education, and they themselves and the government of the time felt that this would then free them up. As you know, they are very highly organized and they are excellent groups. They have a great deal of community-minded people working in them who do not have any retarded children and they have a very good rapport with the community.

They were raising a fair amount of money for the educational programme at one time and that, of course, then switched over to the school system, and the thought was that they would then be able to continue on, they would not need as much money but they would be able to use those resources to help establish these workshops. I think there are about 80-plus that we are helping with now, and as you are aware, they are opening all the time. But I agree with you, they do have their problems.

Mr. T. P. Reid: In flipping through the public accounts, I see most of them are in cities or close to cities where the resources are so much greater than we have in rural areas, and where to my mind the need is the greatest because we do not have any facilities other than those provided by the local associations for the retarded. In a city you have various hospitals, various learning educational facilities and so on.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of course, there may be some other factors involved. The kind of work that they do, the parts of the programme. In an absolutely rural area—I do not know—they may have to devise some different types of operation. As you know, they do work—this is how they gain their

jobs—they do work for local industries in various kinds of jobs geared to the various skills of the people in there, and they are used in at least a twofold manner, if not more.

Some of the people who attend are being rehabilitated through the work in the workshop, hopefully to move out into some type of operation, and others of course, will probably never move out; they can just attain the level of the kind of jobs that the workshop brings in and that is it.

Mr. T. P. Reid: This is my point exactly, Mr. Minister, that in a rural area such as mine the opportunities for many of the people who are not handicapped are severely limited, and even once the people are trained the opportunities for them to go out and work in a local industry are limited anyway, let alone the handicap that they have.

I just have one more point, and it is along the same theme, and that is: What capital grants are available—or do you hope to make available—for local residences for the retarded? My riding is something like 17,000 square miles; it is, in most cases, anywhere from 100 to 250 miles from Thunder Bay, which is the closest city, and to provide a community workshop such as we have been discussing and to provide a community where these people can live and work is going to require a residence located centrally in the kind of rural area I am talking about. Has the department any concept of moving toward providing capital grants for the building of such residences?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No. We provide a grant now for residences—\$5,000 a bed for new construction, \$1,200 for renovations—under the retarded persons' Act.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, I realize that. Is there any suggestion of increasing that, because at today's prices, you know—

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is not in these estimates.

Mr. T. P. Reid: No?

Hon. Mr. Wells: These estimates are based on that programme.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, I realize that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It would be nice to be able to increase everything.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Well, I realize that, but I feel these people, amongst all people in

society, are probably the ones who are the most forgotten by the community at large and more deserving—I should not say more deserving, but the most deserving of help.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We agree with you there, they are most deserving of help, and because of the work of the retarded associations they are not the most forgotten any more.

Mr. T. P. Reid: No, I realize that, but all I can ask is that you review both suggestions that I have made to you with the hope that these grants can be increased, with a special emphasis on the rural communities far away from large urban centres.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will tell you what I want to do—and this meshes in with what my colleague, the Minister of Health has said. I agree with his statement—and I have spoken about this—that he and I together need to review the whole programme for the retarded because we have programmes in the two departments. While we have had good inter-departmental co-operation—there is no question about that; the committees work together well—the programmes still do not mesh the way I would like to see them mesh. And the emphasis in his department, which has to be away from the large hospital schools into more community orientation, has to mesh in with our residences and so forth. So what we really need is a total programme and what really keeps coming to my mind is that it should be run by one person somewhere who has a total programme—

Mr. T. P. Reid: Rather than a—

Hon. Mr. Wells: When you get down to it, except for those who need medical assistance, the retarded are not a health problem, they are a community problem.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think we have to look at it in this light. Another thing that bothers me is that we have over 2,000 of them in these homes for special care, which is fine; it gets them into the community, but I do not think they have the same spirit in a home for special care as they do in one of these homes for the retarded that are run by the associations and where they build a programme around them. I would like to see the whole thing more connected with the associations.

Mr. T. P. Reid: Yes, and more on a community basis.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It might be a nice idea some time in the future if the associations could take over the boards and run the hospital schools.

Mr. T. P. Reid: If they were reasonably well financed and funded by the provincial government, right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Yes, Mr. Chairman.

These programmes we are discussing to a large extent are shared-cost programmes. Now, in his budget speech the Treasurer (Mr. McKeough) stated that it was the policy of this province to go into future federal-provincial conferences to renegotiate the funding of the various services that are provided for the people of this province and, if possible, to opt out of these shared-cost programmes and take a tax equivalent instead of being under the federal Acts.

One thing that I think has happened by and large because of the shared-cost programmes is that there has been a general standard of programmes and services throughout the country; some of the poor provinces have been enabled to provide the kind of services they otherwise might not be able to provide if there were not such legislation on the books.

I think the federal government, in assessing the country as a whole, has been able to initiate new programmes and to expand services across the country. And I think it has provided a pretty reasonable standard. If we opt out of these cost-sharing programmes and go it alone for a tax equivalent, one wonders first of all whether we in this province intend to cancel certain programmes that we are now funding and to cut back on some others. Does it mean that the level of assistance now being granted will be cut back or just what?

Even under the shared-cost programmes that we have, I understand that the work activity programme, for instance, is designed to help unemployed who do not have the basic educational background or fundamental skills to qualify for an upgrading programme—for the province to set up such a programme and get a 50 per cent grant from the federal government. I do not believe we have this in Ontario. I know we do have the rehabilitation services that are being carried out by this government, but I understand also that we have to pay the full 100 per cent of those rehabilitation services.

So if we were to take this step and the government was to give in to the rising tide of reaction that seems to be showing its head, where they do not feel that welfare should be given out at all freely, I think it could have some pretty serious repercussions for the people of this province and of this country. Even under the shared-cost programmes, this government at times has not been too ready to move into the opportunities and the regulations that have been set down by the federal legislation.

I remember two or three years ago that we stayed until about 4 in the morning after a long and protracted fight to get the government to move into the setting up of the review board. Now I hear the minister saying that there is an assessment going on of the various welfare programmes, workmen's compensation, Canada Pension and other kinds of welfare benefits. It might be that at the federal-provincial conference, which is to be held at Victoria in another couple of weeks, this whole question will be before you and that you will be perhaps rationalizing the whole structure of assistance programmes. And it would seem that rather than have a complete opting-out by the province from these programmes, it would be in the interest of the province and of the country to have an integration of more of these programmes, so that there would be more co-operation and better working between the two governments than almost having a wall built between them.

I wonder if you have done studies on this particular subject and have background papers as to the reasons why you think the government should take this kind of a step, because I think the consequences are very serious. The hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) last night mentioned that in this province the kind of levels of benefit many people have do not enable them to even get the kind of nutrition that the food council, I think, recommends. It could be that in at least some of the other provinces there would be a real lowering of the standards if Ontario were to opt out.

Some people will say, "Well, it is a good life living on welfare; you don't have to work, and look at the money you get." In terms of the amounts I see people getting, I cannot see anybody wanting to live indefinitely on welfare unless there is a health reason or some other very valid reason. I just see the kind of restricted life that people have to live as making one want to get off it as quickly as possible. But in the whole field of welfare and family benefits programmes and

so on, are you considering opting out and taking a fiscal tax equivalent so that the whole programme can be operated by this province and not subject to the federal legislation?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, Mr. Chairman, we are not at this point considering opting out of the Canada Assistance Plan.

Mr. Ferrier: Would this be one of the programmes then that the Treasurer was not referring to when—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not think he was specifically referring to that one. He referred to a couple of others, and I could not tell you what the policy is on those. But at the present time in our discussions we are not considering opting out of the Canada Assistance Plan. Indeed, we are hoping to improve the arrangements under the legislation now.

I could not agree with you more when you say—even as I say—there should be better integration, because someone asked why we did not change the old age security regulations that we have in time for the federal regulations to be changed. I suppose you can argue that we could have moved a couple of months sooner, but the fact of the matter is that they sort of moved unilaterally in changing the guaranteed income supplement too. That is a programme that is completely theirs.

Very often there is the lack of consultation on these things, and I hope that this can be improved. These are some of the things we will be talking about at our conference, which is next week.

Mr. Ferrier: I am pleased to hear you say that, because I had hoped that you were not going to move, but I had some fears that, in view of the statements—

Hon. Mr. Wells: At the present time opting out of the Canada Assistance Plan is not being considered.

Mr. Ferrier: It gives me a good deal of comfort to know that that is your position.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to speak about some rather practical points.

When a widow is left to seek support from the government for herself and her children, there is no way that she can immediately become a recipient of mother's allowance. I think this is wrong, Mr. Minister, inasmuch as, under mother's allowance,

if that mother happens to have a small amount of money, which sometimes she would have from insurance or savings, she is forced to use this up and apply to welfare, be on welfare for three to six months before she can be an applicant for mother's allowance. And yet, being a widow she is automatically, clearly in a category that is entitled to the mother's allowance.

I wonder if you could explain the thinking behind this?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know that I can tell the hon. member what the thinking behind it is. It is just the way the regulations read. It is that she goes on the general welfare assistance until the assessment is made for her transfer to mother's allowance.

Mrs. M. Renwick: You see what that does, of course. It means that she has to use up whatever little savings she has and get right down to her last \$200, then she is eligible for welfare.

Hon. Mr. Wells: She does not have to use up all her savings if she is a widow, does she?

Mrs. M. Renwick: Yes, she does. She has to use it right up to the last \$200 which will take care of her for a month, and then she can apply for welfare. And this leaves her—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh I see—I follow you. In other words, if she could go on to mother's allowance right away there is a greater exemption than under general welfare assistance.

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is right—for herself and for her children. A few hundred dollars are allowed for children and a few hundred for herself. That is one of the inadequacies.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, well, that sounds very reasonable to me. How long do they make them wait, three months? Is there any particular reason why it is three months?

Now you are not talking about deserted women, you are talking about widows?

Mrs. M. Renwick: I am just talking about widows.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Miss Crittenden says there is no waiting period for widows. There is a waiting period on desertions, but not for widows.

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is not the way the Act reads and that is not the way it is being carried out.

Mr. Haggerty: You are saying that if she has more than so much money she has to spend it?

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I follow the point being made.

Mr. Haggerty: Some people of The Department of Social and Family Services may say it is \$600, \$400, or \$200. There is no set pattern, I do not think, and this is—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I suspect that while there is no waiting period it may take three months to process the claim. That is probably what the problem is. There is no time factor, but they just do not process them.

We will look into it and see if it cannot be improved.

Mrs. M. Renwick: It has been raised before, Mr. Minister, so perhaps you would look into it.

The other practical aspect is that of the unwed mother whose infant child is not able to have protection under the Act until it is three months old. That acts as a deterrent to mothers keeping their children. If in three months they cannot provide for the child, then the child automatically will have to go for adoption. An unmarried mother with an infant does not receive mother's allowance for that infant until the infant is three months old.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of course, there are differing opinions here. I am not so sure that there should be encouragements in here for the unwed mother to keep the child.

I recognize that there are two points of view in this area and I think this regulation was probably put in there in order to provide a period when the mother is considering whether she should keep the child or not. I guess it does present a hardship to her, but I am just not convinced that there should be every incentive built in to encourage an unmarried mother to keep her child now.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Surely Mr. Chairman, that is not much incentive? That is just simply providing food for the mother and child during that three-month period.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is part of the process.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Then we have two kinds of children from unwed mothers. We have the kind who, if someone in their family can support them for three months, then their mothers have the opportunity of waiting the three months and going on mother's allowance. But if they have no family support for that three months, then the mothers are forced to give up the child, whether they want to or not.

It is a simple form of bookkeeping for The Department of Social and Family Services, but it is a hardship on the one class of mother as opposed to the other class of mother who has the money with which to keep the child for three months.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess this is so. She, of course, could probably get general welfare assistance for the child, but it just seems to me that you get an awful lot of strikes against you—if the mother is on welfare and she is going to keep a child who has no father and it is going to go on welfare too, the strikes are building up, and perhaps the encouragement should not be there at all for that person.

Mrs. M. Renwick: But in the Act she is listed under mother's allowance, rather than under welfare.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, after three months, yes.

Mrs. M. Renwick: So, therefore, she is not really going to be a welfare recipient with a little child on welfare. She is going to be a mother's allowance recipient with a child under mother's allowance.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. As I say, there are a lot of different opinions about this. But a 16- or 17-year-old starting out that way has got an awful lot of strikes against her.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Of course, we are not talking about any particular age group, Mr. Minister. It may well be an older person. You see, actually, the problems that I am speaking about are problems that are in the two Acts which, in my view, should be in one Act in the first place.

I would like to speak about another one—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You differ from your colleague, the member for Wentworth. Was it not he who on Friday wanted to have two Acts, sort of those who were not classed as welfare and those who were just on welfare?

Mrs. M. Renwick: I think he wanted to break up all those who are on welfare into those who are on workmen's compensation and those on unemployment insurance and pull out of welfare those who are employable and who are not there through any inadequacy of their own.

Under family benefits, a family in receipt of family benefits, with a drug bill. I had one recently with a drug bill for \$4.87, that was refused for payment because it was under \$5. I wonder if the minister would elaborate on that. Is it ethical for that person to collect that drug bill with the next month's drug bill and present the two drug bills, which will then be over \$5?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Maybe Dr. Williams could comment on that. I am not sure if that comes under special assistance or supplemental assistance.

Dr. C. J. Williams (Municipal Welfare Administration): Mr. Chairman, that would be simply a local policy. We have not set any minimum. As long as the municipality pays any amount, no matter how small it might be, we will share in it. I believe that in Toronto they do have a minimum of \$5 monthly.

However, it would be, as far as I know, quite correct for her to accumulate these bills, and at the end of a couple of months then she would be paid for them.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Two per cent of those.

Dr. Williams: But if it is over \$5 Metro has no hesitation in paying.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister when he is going to publish the nutrition scale that is set out by the nutritionist for these families to live on.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean the part of the pre-added budget that is for nutrition?

Mrs. M. Renwick: Right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know that we are going to publish it. We have published the pre-added budget. It is now available for everyone who wants a copy of it and I really do not think that we intend to publish anything more than that at this point in time.

You can argue that it is not adequate, but they are the allowances that we now have and it is worked out by people who have some knowledge in the area and—

Mrs. M. Renwick: The serious thing, of course, Mr. Minister, is that the government is arguing that they are adequate and you are not publishing any sort of proof or any sort of encouragement that they are adequate. If they are adequate, why would they not publish them?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That, I do not think, just does not follow. We have published this booklet. The budget is all there now. I will be glad to differ with you. You do not feel it is adequate, while others feel that within the total programme that we have, it is the budget that we have to live with at the present time. We have people who tell us that it is adequate.

Mrs. M. Renwick: We are just asking for people to tell us that it is adequate and show us that it is adequate, and no one has done it so far in the department. No one seems to want to publish this food budget.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just cannot see that it is of that importance. The budget itself is published. There it is. As I say, we can differ with whether it is enough or not, but there it is, and it is probably the highest allowances of any province in Canada. I am not saying that is any credit to us, but that is a fact and it is within the financial constraints and the financial situation that we have.

Mrs. M. Renwick: What would the minister's comment be as to why the increment in the cost of living did not go to the full increment of the 12 per cent rather than the 6.5 per cent, for May 1 increases?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean when we increased the budget? As I understand it, the increase went to around 9 per cent or 10 per cent, not 6.5 per cent. That is what they roughly average out to.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Can the minister answer the question I asked the first day as to how many families received the \$10 extra increment for shelter, how many families there were in May that received that increment? What that will show is how many families did not receive enough under the shelter allowance.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We cannot get that immediately.

Mrs. M. Renwick: You have it for family benefits do you not?

Dr. Williams: We would have to collect this figure from some 400 municipalities, and

that would take some time, but I could get an estimate.

Mrs. M. Renwick: An estimate would be sufficient, but would there not be an exact figure in the family benefits branch?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I guess we would have to draw that out. We would not have it quickly at hand. I guess we will not be able to do it overnight, but we can probably get you an estimate of this within a period of time.

Mrs. M. Renwick: The number of families?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The number of families which, when the change came in, got the extra \$10 immediately.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Is there any thought at all about changing the ceiling that is imposed upon the people from the fact that there is the minimum shelter allowance, which ends up being a ceiling on allowances for shelter? Is there any thought of changing that allowance again?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Changing the \$95 or \$85?

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is right, because it is so totally inadequate.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There is nothing in these estimates. These estimates this fiscal year are based on those figures.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Then the minister must know, from the figures that I am requesting, how many families are having to take money from their pre-added budget, from their food budget in order to make up rent. Anywhere from \$10 to \$40 to \$60 a month to make up their rent payments has to be taken from the pre-added budget. There are many of these families, because I see many of them in my travels. How many there are in the province would be astounding, I am sure, except in some communities where rents may be reasonably lower than they are in Metropolitan Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I hope, as I indicated last night, that one of the components of coming to grips with this problem will be a readjustment of family allowances, because I think that you cannot isolate that. It is all part of it. Of course, this is what we are working on with the federal government now, because these are families, basically, that you are talking about, and there are children involved. Family allowances should play a large part, particularly for these families which need them.

Mr. C. J. Pilkey (Oshawa): Why can you not isolate the rents part of it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Why would you isolate it? They are all part of a total assistance programme. I did not say isolate the rent; I said you cannot isolate the family allowances. We have forgotten that this federal family allowance programme is hanging around. It is a major part of the total programme of income supplementation, and it has got to be more adequately integrated and more adequately form a part of health and, in particular for these lower income families, because it is the one area where you do something special for the children.

Mrs. M. Renwick: What is the amount allowed now for the extra child over the first six in the family? Is it four children and two adults?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean the \$330 plus. You mean on the pre-added budget?

Mrs. M. Renwick: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is \$26 for a child zero to nine years; \$34 from 10 to 15; and \$40 for 16 years and over.

Mrs. M. Renwick: For all children over the basic family allowance? This is where you used to have \$10 a month per child. I think it went up to \$12.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, for families in excess of six children.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Six children, or two adults and four children?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, two adults and six children. Then you add to the basic allowance \$26, \$34 or \$40.

Mrs. M. Renwick: That is improved somewhat. Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Have you got one of these little booklets?

Mrs. M. Renwick: No.

Mr. Pilkey: Can we get one?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We were going to get them to all of you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ben, do you want to speak on the same vote?

Mr. G. Ben (Humber): On the same vote, yes. I just want to elaborate on something we were discussing yesterday. This has to

do with our transient youth. The discussion yesterday dwelt on the utilization of places called tent cities, or utilizing public buildings, or on utilizing the residences of universities, residences which are supposed to be empty during the summer months.

I said I opposed the construction of tent cities because, after a heavy rain, or after prolonged rains, they look like the swampy ground of a World War I battlefield. I have since been giving some thought to the matter and it came to me that perhaps we were looking at it in the wrong way completely.

It occurs to me that today's youth seem to be society's foundlings and that perhaps what we should do with these foundlings is put them right back on the doorstep of society—that the people who should be looking after the needs of our youth are we the people ourselves, and that what this government should encourage is the general public supplying accommodation for our transient youth.

What this government should do is set up a system of private dwellings throughout the Province of Ontario. At the entrance to each town or city would be an information booth where our transient youth could inquire as to available accommodation, and citizens would then undertake to give accommodation to these youngsters.

It need only be one youngster for one night a week; the youngster could be given either a bed or, if not, a place to lie down. It could be on the recreation room floor, it could be on a couch, because Mr. Minister, most of these children carry sleeping bags. They could be given a place to have a shower or bath, a continental breakfast and sent on their way.

I know that citizens, being what they are, would readily accept a clean-cut youngster with polite manners but I am afraid that many people would be very reluctant to take into their homes what in the vernacular is referred to as a "wild-eyed, hairy hippie." But on the other hand, maybe it would be a chance for us to get the temperament of the people and just see how many of them believe in our youth and how many of them are prepared to be Good Samaritans, or how many of them are going to make these youths pass on the other side. In the Bible it was the Pharisee who passed on the other side, and I daresay that there are many citizens who will make the youths pass on the other side, but it would be a good chance to judge them.

For my money the people that need the help most would be the ones that are bushy-haired and raggedy looking. These may be the prodigals, and as consideration for them receiving a shelter you might ask them to take a bath. At any rate I suggest that with a kind word and a gentle pat on the shoulder many of these could be directed back home.

When it comes to public buildings, Mr. Minister, this thought enters my mind. With all the demonstrations by our youngsters against the ills of society as they say, there still seems to be more respect for private property than there is for public property, and the public property is supposed to be our property, everybody's property, including their property. You would think that the reverse would be true, that they would disdain private ownership and protect that which was theirs, or public property. But the reverse seems to be the practice and they seem to have little respect or regard for what is public and are less reluctant to trespass on private domain.

What makes the system of utilization of public buildings weak is the fact that once they get in there is no control. You cannot tell them to move out of a public building because they say, "Why should we? It is our building. We are taxpayers," they say. They may not be paying any taxes but they say, "We are taxpayers, we are citizens, we have a right to stay in this building."

However, if it is a privately run building, or even a building like the YMCA which you might say is privately run with public funds, and they are told to leave because their welcome has expired, they do it. All over Europe they run the international hostel system and they have pretty strict rules. In many cases you have to get a reservation. The charge is minimal. They have to pay a charge: they have to wash dishes, if dishes have to be done; they have to make beds, if beds have to be done; they have to clean, if cleaning has to be done; they have to do their share of the work. Otherwise they chuck them out.

But look at what happened in Vancouver when they turned over the armouries and many other places. They could not get them out of the armouries because it was a public building. And I think that because we are asking private citizens to utilize their homes there is more chance of them paying heed to the rules and regulations of the household that were laid down.

I might point out that opening one's home to people whose background is unknown to

them is not anything new. Those of you who were in Britain during the war know that the whole country was geared to accepting veterans on leave—not veterans, I am sorry, servicemen on leave—and a good number of you here who were in the armed forces no doubt spent many a night in homes throughout Britain—when I say Britain I am including Scotland—

Mr. M. B. Dymond (Ontario): What he means is, that is the most important part of it.

Mr. Ben: Well, I thought you might have been offended if I did not say in Scotland, including England.

Mr. Dymond: Scotland and England.

Mr. Ben: Let us face it, the people who accepted those servicemen knew nothing about them except the fact that they wore at that time the King's uniform and it worked out very successfully.

Mr. D. H. Morrow (Ottawa West): It was important.

Mr. Ben: It was very important. I am not suggesting that we put them all into a uniform, but you might say that they all have a uniform of one kind or another, especially if they are wearing jeans; that seems to be the modern uniform of travel these days. So I am putting this up, Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, suggesting that the government perhaps could print the placards that could be put in the windows of these homes saying, "We support our youth" or "We believe in youth," as an indication that they would offer shelter to our transient youth.

For the benefit of the citizens, and in order to avoid their homes becoming simply shelters for people who have no desire to do anything, who in fact are not transient youth but just people who are prepared to live off the fat of the land so to speak, I think all transient youth should be issued with proper identity cards to show that they are in fact travelling and they do not reside in that city and are not simply moving from place to place in order to get free lodging and free food.

I think such a system would also be beneficial to those families who take in transients and who themselves have children, because during the short time they were there I am sure the homeowner's children could benefit from the experience related to them by these transients. I know some people are going to say, "All these youngsters are doing is smoking pot and hashish and all that stuff and I do not want them in my house to teach my

kids how to smoke." I do not buy that. I do not think that is a true description of our young people.

Travel today is an educational process. They have been doing it in Europe for Lord knows how many hundreds of years and they have survived and they have managed well. Many youngsters do not want to stay in a hostel, but they are quite prepared to camp out. But to me at least it is something that we ought to try out, and this department should encourage municipalities to at least set up the central registries for that purpose. You might even offer a grant to each municipality I do not know if it would take more than \$500, Mr. Minister, for each municipality to institute such a programme, just to operate a central registry for the summer months—\$1,000 at the most—to record the families that are interested and do it.

You might say, Mr. Minister, that this would be a belated centennial project for the Province of Ontario, that is, to welcome and look after all of our transient youths. Why do you not give it a try?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will look into it. I am not so sure that these transient youths want to stay in private homes. I am not so sure that that falls within the general area of our responsibility.

Mr. Ben: Well, it falls within our responsibility, Mr. Minister. Would you prefer that the municipalities treat all these youngsters as welfare cases and get the 80 per cent from you under general welfare assistance? Is that any more honest a method of doing it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That indeed is what we do.

Mr. Ben: But is that an honest way of doing it? That we should look upon them as welfare cases rather than as just youngsters who are wanting to see the country as part of their educational process?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well you know you are using welfare in sort of a sinister connotation, but actually there is provision in the Canada Assistance Plan for assistance to hostels and that can be used to finance people in need who come to stay. The federal government has given money to set up these hostels. Now if any young persons arrive at those hostels and have not the means with which to pay for their stay there, they can make application when they arrive. The municipality will pay them and will share the cost of so much a night for them to stay in that hostel.

Mr. Ben: This way would save the municipality money by making it unnecessary to set up these temporary hostels. I favour hostels, but the trouble is we do not set up hostels—we usually utilize some empty building like an armoury or a coliseum. If you are going to set up permanent hostels, fine, because children travel in all types of weather. We seem to be gearing our efforts toward the summer months only.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —that is, of course, when there is the greatest number travelling.

Mr. Ben: That is when there is the greatest migration, I concur.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will take your point up with the interdepartmental committee on youth, which has been looking into this problem here. We will make a note of that and let them see it. If they think there is merit in this, they will carry it forward. If they want us to do something in this regard, fine. I think it would be helpful if a registry was kept of people who were willing to take in visitors for the summer.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith?

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am sorry I was out when my turn came up previously.

I have perhaps a few remarks and a question of the minister in regard to the disability pensions. I realize that this is, perhaps, the most troublesome area for the department—to decide who is eligible and who is not. As I understand it, the forms which are provided for the medical practitioners to fill out with the application provide four or five different areas on the back where they check off in regard to whether a person is permanently disabled, or whether he will be disabled for a period of time, or whether the doctor considers him able to do light work, or able to do nothing; all the different areas that he can choose.

I would like to know how the medical advisory board, I guess it is, makes its decision based on the form that is provided to it? Apparently, it is only one of those blocks that indicates the degree of disability that is acceptable for a person to be provided with social and family services benefits.

There again there are some who have the form filled out by the medical practitioner. He, I suppose, puts down on one side the significant medical opinion, and on the other side he checks off one of these blocks.

Invariably, there is some question as to how the medical people within your department make their decision as to whether or not a person qualifies.

I have had a good number of calls from medical practitioners who ask if the department is prepared to take their opinion; perhaps they should set up their own medical people to advise the department.

I know that this is an area that is very difficult to pin down, but is there not some way by which the decision of the practitioner who sees the person weekly or monthly is enough for the department?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I will ask Mr. Borczak to comment on that, but I would like to say first that you will recall, I guess last Friday, I said that we did agree that there is a degree of rigidity in the disability area at the present time that has got to be looked at, and we are going to look at this thing.

In other words, you have to be completely blind, for instance, before you can get a blind pension, a disabled pension for blindness. You might be 90 per cent blind—

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but I think blindness is an area that—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is a little more dramatic, but there is still a rigidity in it that perhaps should not be there now; but it is at the moment. Perhaps Mr. Borczak, particularly on the point about the doctors' opinions that—

Mr. Borczak: Mr. Chairman, every applicant who is disabled and applies for an allowance under The Family Benefits Act is required to have completed on his behalf by his personal physician a form 4 which is headed up, "Medical Report in Respect of Disability."

On that form, the examining doctor sets out the medical history of the individual that centres around his disability. It requires a statement from the doctor as to the person's mental alertness, his pulse, his blood pressure, and other findings of that nature; he is required to provide a diagnosis, a prognosis, what the present treatment is, if any, the limitations imposed by the disability on the individual, and any recommendations he may have with regard to the disability or with regard to special diets and so on the person may need.

We have a medical advisory board on which we have three doctors who examine this medical report. On the basis of the

report, together with a form which is submitted by the field worker, where the field worker is asked to set out certain particulars as to how the person is able to get around in his own environment—in his home and this sort of thing—on the basis of this kind of information, together with the medical report, the medical advisory board makes the decision whether or not the person is disabled within the meaning of The Family Benefits Act.

Perhaps if I may take a moment I may just read that definition, because it comes back to the point that the minister has made here. Under The Family Benefits Act, the definition of a disabled person means:

A person who has a major physical or mental impairment that is likely to continue for a prolonged period of time and who, as a result thereof, is severely limited in activities pertaining to normal living as verified by objective medical findings accepted by the medical advisory board.

You will notice in that definition there is a complete absence of any reference to unemployability. This is trying to determine total and permanent disability and the problem which the hon. member has raised centres on that very question.

Many of the doctors who make the examination really think of the disability in terms of whether the person is ordinarily unemployable when, in fact, the definition does not introduce that feature at all. It is trying to get at this very considerable degree of permanent and total disability. Coming back to the minister's statement, it is that particular feature in the definition which has to be re-examined and perhaps this question of the unemployability of the person has to be considered seriously here.

I think therefore, coming back to the hon. member's point about whether or not the doctor, the examining physician, could make this decision, I think he cannot. I think, within the meaning of this definition, he would face exactly the same problem as our medical advisory board.

Mr. R. S. Smith: At the end of your form 4 is there not an area where a doctor, the examining doctor, makes a check mark in regard to four or five statements?

Mr. Borczak: This is correct.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Would you read those four or five statements?

Mr. Borczak: Yes. It says:

In your opinion would you consider this person to be:

- (1) Medically employable;
- (2) Medically able to perform only light duties;
- (3) Temporarily unemployable for medical reasons but likely able to resume employment after: less than six months; six months; nine months; one year; other;
- (4) Permanently unemployable for medical reasons and unlikely to be able to commence remunerative employment;
- (5) Disabled to the extent that the person is severely limited in the activities pertaining to normal living such as self-care, communication, or motor activities and this disability is likely to continue for a prolonged period of time.

What you will see there is that in the first four items it deals with the question of employability. But as I mentioned earlier, those questions are not part of the definition, so the doctors here are striving to make this distinction in their review of the medical evidence. They are trying to make this distinction as to whether he fits item 5 or one or more of the first four items.

Mr. R. S. Smith: It comes right down to the fact, then, that the first four questions are really academic in that if the doctor checks either one of those first four items the man is likely not to qualify in regard to what you read previously—your definition of a person who is disabled.

I do not know—maybe I am just a layman in this field—but if a person is permanently unemployable because of his medical condition, I would think that it would follow from this that he would be disabled in regard to the Act.

Yet when a doctor checks that number four, very often the medical advisory board decides that he is not permanently disabled, even though he is permanently unemployable because of his physical condition. I just cannot see how a person can be permanently unemployable because of his physical condition and not be disabled to qualify under the Act.

I find it very difficult to put those two things together, and I should think that a reasonable look at the situation would indicate that if the family physician or whoever is treating the person does indicate this on

the report, that should be enough to qualify him for the family benefits.

What is the minister suggesting will be done in order to broaden the interpretation of this?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I cannot tell you what will be done yet. I am just saying it is probably to try to get at the very point you have just stated, the fact that there are these inconsistencies in it, that permanent unemployability has not been considered necessarily as the sole criterion for a disabled person. There is this hazy, grey area in there. I find it just as hazy as you do sometimes to try to decide what is and what is not a permanently disabled person.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I cannot see where a person can be permanently unemployable because of his physical condition or mental condition and can be described, for the purposes of the legislation, to be anything but disabled. Just what do you have to do to be disabled, or what condition do you have to be in to be disabled?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We do have a definition of permanently unemployable in The General Welfare Assistance Act and it is different from totally disabled.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I think, you see, that you are creating in that form a real question in the mind of the physician, because he looks at that form and then he checks that four off and he feels that this indicates that the person is disabled.

If we are going to disqualify people because of the way a form is set out, and we are getting opinions from the medical practitioner, that do not indicate truly what he thinks, your interpretation of it is different from his. I think you have a real problem here. The people are being refused assistance based on a definition that is just not applicable to the circumstances.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Would you think it would be preferable if we had our own medical examinations?

Mr. R. S. Smith: No, no, I do not think so. I do not suggest that. I have had people suggest that to me.

Hon. Mr. Wells: But you do not think that is—

Mr. R. S. Smith: No. But I have had medical people suggest to me that if you people are not going to take their opinion, perhaps

you should do it yourself. And I do not blame them, when they get a lot of these people coming in, or a goodly number of them coming in, and they are continually being turned down on an interpretation—that they do not agree with—of what they have submitted on the examination form, then I think they have a reasonable complaint to know just what you people want.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We will have to do this in our review of this. We will have to analyse these and try and find out what the problem is.

Mr. A. W. Downer (Dufferin-Simcoe): If they are unemployable they are better off on public welfare rather than this, anyway.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Why?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Allan, did you have a point on this?

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, the person that I feel particularly sympathetic toward, or the family that I feel particularly sympathetic toward, is in the situation where the man is disabled and recognized as being disabled, requiring very often quite a few drugs. The wife can be working very hard in an effort to bring in a little bit of money to the family, and when you get down to around \$2,500 a year for a wife and a husband to live in a house and pay rent and buy drugs, all of which the woman must pay—she must pay her hospitalization, she must pay OHSIP—I tell you that is a pretty difficult task for a woman to undertake. And I would hope that you would look at that and just see, in your scale by which you determine whether or not this family is entitled to assistance, if there could not be some allowance. Some persons, you know, are paying \$25 a month for drugs and I tell you that is pretty tough for a woman. I think of one particularly, who is a delicate person, works when she can and just gets over the limit. This is one of the areas where I am particularly sympathetic to it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is the married disabled man?

Mr. Allan: The married disabled man, and it being necessary for the woman to pay the entire expense of the house. He gets no help with anything. Probably they are only paying half the cost of OHSIP but they are paying OHSIP, they are paying their hospitalization, I tell you it is a pretty small amount of money to begin to pay all your family expenses from.

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is right, and I think you have a very good point. This is the point that we were talking about the other day.

Mr. Allan: When you are looking things over I hope you look at that carefully.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is the same case as the disabled person who wants to get married. He is in the same position. He is getting an allowance and to get married he has to give up his allowance and ask the woman he is going to marry to take over his support, which is a very, very difficult thing.

Mr. Deans: In that case that Mr. Allan is talking about of course, it all goes back to your original statements of last week, where you were saying that it is preferable that a person have employment or be gainfully employed and providing and should be encouraged to provide for himself as a family unit, to provide for their own family and then you discourage them by the actions of the department. I think that this is true. It is not the actions, it is simply the Act; it has to be completely rewritten.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Everything is not as necessarily as consistent as it should be.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pilkey.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I have got one more—

Mr. Pilkey: It is all right. I am sorry, go ahead.

Mr. R. S. Smith: —one more short question on this. Could the minister explain to me how a person can be qualified for a dependent father's allowance and then when the children leave home or reach that age where they are not included in the family benefit, that he then—because of his disability he is qualified as a dependent father—but then he is to move to a disability pension because he can no longer qualify because of the family circumstances?

Oftentimes he is not disabled enough—if you can find a degree in that type of category—to qualify for the disability pension, whereas he was disabled enough to qualify for dependent father's allowance. He is disabled enough that they need to give support for the family but not for him and his wife or him himself when his family are gone.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Maybe Mr. McKnight can comment on that.

Mr. J. E. McKnight (Family Benefits Branch): Mr. Chairman, the problem is the

same one as the hon. member just raised a moment ago. The situation is such that the man may qualify by virtue of being considered permanently unemployable by the medical advisory board, but not disabled, there being a difference. So that if he has dependent children he qualifies as long as he has dependent children, and once he does not then there is no authority to continue an allowance unless he can be considered disabled.

At that point in time, then one would view his situation the same as any other applicant who came and applied for an allowance as a disabled person. The medical and advisory board will again make a decision and in actual practice they may make a number of decisions over a period of time to see whether or not a person who is permanently unemployable could be considered disabled by virtue of changing circumstances.

Mr. R. S. Smith: It comes down to, then, the difference in the definition for permanently disabled and permanently unemployable. Can you provide me with the difference in the definition? I just do not understand that. I find it very difficult.

Mr. McKnight: The definitions are set forth in the regulations, and Mr. Borczak read the one on—

Mr. R. S. Smith: Permanently disabled people, that is the one Mr. Borczak read.

Mr. Borczak: Does the hon. member want me to read the one on the dependent father?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes.

Mr. Borczak: It reads:

Dependent father means a father who is permanently unemployable by reason of physical or mental disability and includes a father who is blind or otherwise disabled as defined by the regulations.

You will see there that that latter statement brings in the first definition that we made reference to, but this regulation clearly is attempting to make a distinction between the two.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Okay. Following that, can you tell me why there should be a distinction between the two definitions?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Between a dependent father and a disabled person?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Right.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of course, because in the dependent father, your emphasis is on the family unit and you are paying this person an allowance because he is the support of these children. Supposedly, there is no wife involved; there could be.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But there could be a wife involved, and he still has to support his wife with the children leaving, and he is disqualified for the dependent father.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There are not too many under this programme as dependent fathers, but there are a lot under general welfare assistance as permanently unemployable. But, as I say, that definition is different from disabled.

But until we get these all sorted out, as I have been saying, there is no question they do not all jibe together.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I should think there is a very simple solution for this; that you just do away with your definition for disabled and apply the same definition as you do to a dependent father.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have to look at that.

Mr. R. S. Smith: And simplify your form by not asking the doctor to choose from five areas, when he is not fully aware of what he is doing when he checks one area or the other.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I mean I think it is unfair to the medical practitioner to ask him to make a judgement based on five different statements which may or may not qualify the person, if he is not fully aware of what will qualify and what will not qualify the person. Then you are taking away from him the right of the decision as far as the person's physical and mental health is concerned and you are putting it in somewhere else as far as a definition is concerned.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that in looking at it I would like to have someone look over the forms and see if this has been a problem with a lot of doctors—

Mr. W. G. Smith (Field Services Branch): Well, I would suggest to you that in my experience it has been a problem with a lot of recipients. A good number of doctors have indicated to me that if this is going to be the case, perhaps some other method should be used.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Pilkey.

Mr. Pilkey: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to just read a short letter—it is not that long I do not think—into the record on this whole question of handicapped persons receiving a benefit, then I want to make some comments after I have read it. I am not going to read it all, as I have pointed out. It goes on to say, in any event:

However, my purpose in writing to you is to bring to your attention a need for a change in the financial treatment of the handicapped by the department of welfare. Most of the handicapped receiving a disability pension have no prospect of finding full-time permanent employment. They face a lifetime of living on a meagre pension at the poverty level.

Some of the lucky ones, like my son who is lame and has a paralyzed right hand, are able to work at odd jobs at the minimum wage and on a temporary basis. These are jobs the able-bodied are not interested in. They are permitted to keep \$24 plus 25 per cent of the balance of their earnings monthly.

Jobs for the handicapped are not easy to find and working takes twice the effort of the able-bodied person. It is very discouraging to be penalized by a reduction in pension until what is termed an overage is paid off. Five dollars to \$10 is deducted until the 75 per cent of the balance of any money given as a gift or earned is repaid to the department of welfare. They are required to fill out a monthly statement and must keep track of every dollar.

I believe the handicapped should be encouraged to work if they can do so. I suggest that they should be placed in a different category from the temporary distressed, able-bodied unemployed, who do have some hope of being gainfully employed. I would also like to suggest that the totally handicapped, who cannot earn, be given a decent pension, not kept to a mere existence level. The handicapped who are able to earn a little occasionally should be encouraged to do so by subsidizing them with a basic pension, plus a \$500 yearly tax exemption and let them pay income tax on their total income.

Mental health is affected by poverty. This means a double handicap for those already handicapped physically. I realize there must be a watch kept on the public purse. I have four children who contribute well over \$10,000 in their combined income

tax annually. I am wondering why the richest province in Canada cannot show more compassion and consideration for those least able to help themselves financially.

And then it goes on to say:

It is time to treat the handicapped as human beings with dignity, not make them feel they are burdens to be tolerated. I am looking forward to hearing your views on what can be done to help the handicapped to help themselves.

It is signed by Mrs. M.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I am wondering if the government has ever considered—and I appreciate that it would probably have to be worked out with the federal government—that the handicapped be given some kind of a basic pension, as we do with the old age pensioners, as we do with family allowance, and that it is not relevant to what they earn, if anything. It seems to me that this would give those individuals a sense of security to go out and get a job even at the minimum wage; at the moment, if they go out, they know that their pension is going to be reduced and they do not know if they are going to get it back. I just think that there must be some anxiety and frustrations among these people who are handicapped and, I would think, feel that they are being tolerated in our society. I just wonder if the government has made any study of this or is anticipating anything along these lines. I happen to think it is important to these people. I do not know how many of them would be involved in the Province of Ontario, but I think that in terms of the total population the number obviously must be rather minimal. Surely, as this woman points out, we are living in the richest province and if we cannot do something for those people who are handicapped, I do not know what other jurisdiction can.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, Mr. Chairman, the matter has been considered. It has been, as I understand, considered many times over the years. We have moved from categorical programmes, which we had at one time and which did not do what you said, but still we had special programmes for different groups.

The great impetus was to move to one programme that covered everybody. Of course, now we are in this family benefits programme that covers everybody on a needs basis, this request, such as you have, is coming in, from the disabled and the handicapped that perhaps they should be considered in a separate

category apart from the whole general group in family benefits allowance.

It has been considered, but we certainly have not made any determination of what we will do. The blind, for instance, have been asking for a good number of years that they should be considered as being on a pension, unrelated to anything else, if they are blind. Ottawa, incidentally, has shown no interest in this matter at all as regards that being eligible under the Canada Assistance Plan. They have held that the tests we now apply should apply and there should be various earning limits and so forth.

Mr. Pilkey: Well, I just do not think that the government should give up in taking it to the federal government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think it is a valid point to consider.

Mr. Pilkey: The federal government has a responsibility in this area, and I happen to think that it should pay its portion of that kind of a pension. I mean, we have no jurisdiction over the federal old age security pension, and it is a basic one; that is what I am talking about. The old age security is a basic pension and surely these people are entitled to that basic pension, using the same criteria that is used to determine an old age security pension.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, that is—

Mr. Pilkey: At this moment, it is a means test and that kind of a thing. I think it would encourage—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, that is the background to it, and I am sure it will be considered again because I have received the same kind of letters you have received about it and we have had representations from the various associations, particularly the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Mr. Pilkey: The other thing—Mr. Allan raised it and a number of other people have raised this point—is about the husband who is totally disabled and, as was pointed out, his wife is working and getting a minimum wage. I am not talking about \$1.65 an hour but about the minimum wage in terms of what we feel is necessary to provide a decent standard of living.

One case that comes to mind involves a woman working in a hospital, where the wages are not that high, and her husband has not been employed for seven years because he cannot work. There is no way that he can

work. He is totally disabled. But there is nothing for him because her wages are over and above the allowance that you lay down through your department.

It seems to me that if we are going to preserve an individual's dignity—a man who has no income; he is relying totally on his wife, and you know, we are always talking about a more humane society and we are all trying to work toward that end, but it seems to me that it is rather inhumane that this fellow just has to rely totally on his wife and has no other income. Even if he had a very basic income, so that he was contributing in a very small way to that home, I think it would make him feel much better.

You know, what would happen if the wife just packed it in and left him? He would become the responsibility of this department if she did that, and we would have to assume the cost as a result.

Maybe that is not much of an argument, but nevertheless it just seems to me that we ought to be able to do something in this area—particularly where the wife is getting wages that are not much above what has been described by the Economic Council of Canada as the poverty line, and there are many of them.

These wives have to go out and work. They are unskilled. Many of them are unskilled—they have no skills. Some of them are in their late forties and fifties and they have to go out and find employment.

I just think that the government has to come to grips with this in some way. You know, again, we are not talking about thousands. We are talking about a minimum number of people in terms of the total population of this province, but they are there. They are in every community across this province and I just happen to think that we should be setting up some kind of a minimum total disability allowance for these people.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Chairman, I would just like to add to the words of the members for Haldimand-Norfolk and Oshawa, because I think these two members have brought to the minister's attention a very crucial, humanitarian problem in Ontario. During the past few months there has been a great deal of controversy in the press about welfare recipients and so on. Very often people will stop you in the street and nail you on this particular subject. You know, they always seem to preface their re-

marks with "I do not mind the disabled person receiving it." They always have that qualifying statement. I think this is a feeling in the land that our citizens want to help these people who are disabled.

Recently I have had brought to my attention three constituents who who are in this very same category as disabled men. One was a gentleman who was living in a common-law arrangement and, because of this, his assistance was cut off, and I must say, he must have had a very loving or a very understanding companion who was willing to go out every day and earn money to support him and maintain their apartment.

Another instance was a gentleman who was in receipt of a veteran's pension from the federal government. He is in his mid-forties and will never be able to work again because of a kidney and heart condition. His wife is out slaving every day to augment his pension and support their young children.

And then there is the third chap, who is probably around 28 years of age, has a heart condition and other physical disabilities, will never be able to work again, and his wife is out working on a minimal wage. He is in receipt of approximately \$60 of social assistance from your department. He has to pay back some kind of overpayment of \$40 or \$50.

I think these people for their self-respect and integrity, you know, should have some form of assistance. Other disabled people, the blind, automatically receive it and these people are more or less in the same category.

One other matter is those women in receipt of mothers' allowances, Mr. Minister. I have made representation to you that you would meet with some of the organizations from Hamilton who wish to discuss this with you, because there seems to be very little in the regulations to provide a real incentive for a woman in receipt of mother's allowance to earn extra money to maintain herself and her children.

I am thinking of one lady whose case was brought to my attention. The circumstances say that there is an opportunity of obtaining a job as a waitress. She has to buy new shoes, a uniform, provide her transportation to go to work and so on, and this lady said: "I could get one of these jobs, and I could really do well for maybe two or three months, and work almost full-time at it. I could manage to have someone look after my children; in the daytime a nursery run by the mothers, and someone to look after

them in the evening. I can make a sizable amount of money, to really get some money ahead to provide the extras for the children and the household," but she is prevented from doing this because of her monthly income quota.

Some of these recipients feel that if the income quota was based on a yearly, outside income, it would be of assistance to them. It would also encourage a lot of these women and give them an opportunity to get out of their homes—if they so desire—and work, so they are not living on social assistance all year round.

Because of the unsatisfactory economic conditions in the country, there is a glut on the market of people who want to work in the service industries—waitresses and domestic help and all those. When these people seek employment, an employer is not interested in hiring a woman who is only going to be able to work six or eight hours a week in a supermarket, or in a restaurant. He wants somebody who would be there whenever he needs her, and so automatically many of these women are restricted in their job opportunities. Something should be really worked out to try out, on an honour system, on a yearly basis, for these women, because most of these women are really trying to do their very best. They are really probably the victims of circumstances over which they have no control.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Our on-going review, which we are looking at.

Mr. Spence: What I was going to bring up was similar to what the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain has brought up.

We have ladies who are on mothers' allowances, and of course, when their families grow up and attend school many of them think that they could be doing some part-time work. But, of course, I see by the new booklet that if a mother on mother's allowance has three children she can only make \$48 a month, which is not too much on which to dress and to prepare for or to carry out her part-time work.

Suppose a mother wants to learn a profession, such as hairdressing, and a number of them do—if she would like to take up hairdressing and get off mother's allowance, does your department pay the mother's allowance—or would they, until the mother

has graduated, or has taken up the profession of a hairdresser? Do you give consideration to that?

I think more encouragement should be given to these mothers to get out on their own, or to make a livelihood themselves without being a burden to The Department of Social and Family Services.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I say, that is part of our general look.

Mr. Spence: Not at the present time, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: At the present time the estimates are built around our present arrangements, but you know, we get the requests and I talk to the groups the same as you do. It is a problem. It is not just a simple problem. There are a lot of different sides to it.

Mr. Spence: I realize that, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There are probably almost as many people who are now not on allowances and who are working at full-time jobs, who, if you raised the earnings level would automatically be eligible for some type of assistance, and the question is whether this would be a good thing or not.

Mr. Spence: You are going to look into this as well as you?

Mr. Chairman: I believe the minister has some answers that Mr. Deans asked for.

Mr. Deans: Are you going to give them now?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes. I am going to read them. Can I just say, Mr. Chairman, beforehand, we have distributed this little booklet to the members, but can I ask that you do not ask for the 100, 200 or 400 copies that some of you may want? For the present time, as I have told you, this is a test printing of the book and we only have about a couple of thousand that have been printed. It is being sent primarily to a lot of user groups, and so forth.

We want to test it out and find the errors in it. You know how you get a book out and someone will say, "I do not understand that paragraph," and that is what is happening with this now. The type is sitting ready and as soon as it has been pretested by all these groups and municipalities and so forth, about two or three weeks later it will be ready. Then we will be doing the

mass printing and will have about 250,000 available, if you need them, for your use.

Mr. Deans: Where is your picture going to go on the final copy?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, I—

Mr. Deans: It is a shame, because there is an extra page at the back, you know.

Mr. Ferrier: Would you send a memorandum around at the time that the final printing is done?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was going to make an announcement about the book, but I felt since I had been using it here that you should have it too, now, at this time. But we will announce to the public when it is available and we will let all the members know that it is then available, as soon as it is ready for the mass run.

This was case 556878F—was that the one?

Mr. Deans: It sounds right, yes, that is the one.

Hon. Mr. Wells: What I am just going to do, Mr. Chairman, is review it in the detail that I have, because we really just find that it has administratively been handled in a fairly normal manner now.

Mr. Deans: That is what I am worried about. If it is the normal manner, God help all these people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They do not all have such dire results.

Mr. Deans: That was not what you meant?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, what I am saying is that there is no obvious botching of the handling—

Mr. Deans: You are going to start on October 9, are you?

Hon. Mr. Wells: October 9 when?

Mr. Deans: Nineteen-seventy.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was going to start October 9, 1969.

Mr. Deans: Well, I understand what happened up until October, I am primarily interested in the review that was undertaken, that led to the letter that was sent October 9 and all of the subsequent things up until March 5 and beyond.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think maybe if I just read the whole thing—it is very short. It starts October 1, 1969. This person whose number we have given was granted an allowance of \$75.78 and his wife's earnings were estimated at \$326. On October 28, 1969, his wife's earnings were confirmed at \$320. In March, 1970, his wife's earnings were reported at an average of \$333.90 from October, 1969 to January, 1970. An overpayment of \$40.32 was computed and recovery commenced. His allowance was reduced to \$60.38 to reflect estimated earnings of \$350. On May 1, 1970, the allowance increased to \$85.78 in accordance with amended regulations. That is when the regulations were changed, the schedule of benefits.

August 1, 1970, the allowance increased to \$94.33 since overpayment was now recovered and \$10 was added for life insurance. That is August, 1970. In October, 1970, the allowance was adjusted to \$100.33 as reported earnings were lower than estimated ones that we had. The new estimate was \$270 at that time.

Mr. Deans: The reported earnings were lower than the earnings—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Than the estimate on which we were working, which was roughly \$350.

Mr. Deans: Okay, fine.

Hon. Mr. Wells: So that at that time through some source it had been reported or somehow ascertained that the earnings of the wife were \$270, which was lower and therefore his allowance was increased.

Mr. Deans: That is what happened. Where did that report come from?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, now, I do not know.

Mr. McKnight: It would come from the employer.

Hon. Mr. Wells: From the employer. It would be verified earnings.

Mr. Deans: On October 9—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not have before me whether she changed her job or not.

Mr. Deans: No, no, she did not, I can assure you. On October 9 it was determined that her earnings between the months of February to August were \$270 as opposed to the \$330 that had been used for the—

Hon. Mr. Wells: The \$350 had been an estimate. Estimated earnings in 1970 were about \$350.

Mr. Deans: And she actually, by the record of her employer, earned an average of \$270, so that resulted in him receiving a cheque for \$200 and also resulted in an alteration being made—

Hon. Mr. Wells: He got a back cheque there.

Mr. Deans: —and an alteration being made brings his level of income or level of payment up to \$100.33? Okay?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Deans: Okay, fine.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Then at this period in October one child left school and another left home. Also, arrears of \$200 were paid.

Mr. Deans: That is the \$200 you paid to him?

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right. Yes. Our arrears of \$200 were paid. In November, 1970, his allowance was increased by \$2 to \$102.33 to reflect adjusted boarder income.

Mr. Deans: Well, I can read it to you. It said—I never did understand this, by the way—but it said that it has been increased to \$102.33 effective November 1 for the following reasons:

Danny has been deleted from the allowance and all benefits as he did not return to school. Board and lodging charged for Patricia has been decreased.

Now, I can understand that part, that part makes sense. If Danny was deleted from the allowance, I fail to see how it could result in an increase, but maybe that was compensated for by the fact that they had been allowing too much for Patricia's payment.

Mr. McKnight: I do not recall the particulars, Mr. Minister, but it seems to me that perhaps we had taken Danny out the month before, in the October cheque, and there was a period of employment perhaps on his part where we made a boarder income charge. I am not sure if the language there is completely correct or not.

Mr. Deans: Well, the language is what is written, I am only reading it.

Mr. McKnight: Yes.

Mr. Deans: Okay, so we will stop at that point. In November, having taken into account the earnings submitted by the employer and having taken into account a change in the dependency, you had decided that he was eligible to receive \$102.33?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Right.

Mr. Deans: All right. Fine. Now we can go on then, because this has all been calculated based on earnings submitted up to August—

Hon. Mr. Wells: The rate was increased November 1 to \$102, yes. The boarder charge for daughter Patricia was adjusted, paying \$10 weekly, not \$60 monthly.

Mr. Deans: Fine. Now we come to February.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Allowance was reduced to \$25.43 as reported earnings averaged \$389. These again were the confirmed earnings that came in on the wife's income and they showed an up from \$270 to \$389.

Mr. Deans: Which is \$110 difference. You see, what I said to you last night, I do not doubt for a moment that in the calculations that you go through you will arrive at the proper figures. I am quite convinced that that is the case. What bothers me is in that five-month period from October 1, when the first change was made based on earnings reported for the previous number of months, these people's income went up and down like a yo-yo.

What happens is, she works harder, works overtime, or an increase in pay comes along and it takes four or five months for the department to recognize this and to make the adjustment. By the time the adjustment is made they have spent the \$200 which they had received previously, and spent it for a worthwhile cause, and then they end up in a four-month period going from a position of receiving \$85 or \$94.30 a month and receiving \$200 for back moneys owing, to a position of receiving \$25.43 a month, and owing the department \$248.99.

And in the month of February they received a letter which said that their amount of benefit had been decreased from \$102.43 to \$30.43, that they owed \$197.39, and a month later, not even a month later, they have changed the figure again and decided it was not \$197.39, it was \$248 that was owing. Surely to goodness there is something

wrong in the manner in which these things are done?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You put your finger on it. I think it is a weakness under the present system of straight means test, and yet this is a requirement of the Canada Assistance Plan at the present time, and to me this is one of the improvements that we have to get. We have to get a more modified system that gives us some flexibility, but we have a needs-tested programme and it depends on all these components coming in. And as the different components change, the allowance keeps changing and sometimes you cannot change the allowance at the same time the components change and that is exactly what happens here.

In other words, our people are checking the earnings of the wife. They are getting verification. Meanwhile, the allowance is going along and then they find that for the last three months the earnings were not what they had been averaging then to be, so they have to recompute and you get this up and down. And that is why, when the guaranteed income supplement changes for these families, we had to adjust their total needs. They have got more money coming in, so that the allowance goes down. And so these things keep going up and down and I do not think that it is necessarily right, but it is a requirement under needs testing under the Canada Assistance Plan at the minute. Until we can get some modification in that to build in a modified system, it is very difficult; in fact, it is almost impossible to do anything else than run it this way.

Mr. Deans: What worries me about it, and I do not want to be too critical of you, because I know you have only been there a short time—it is hard.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You do not have to worry about being critical.

Mr. Deans: No but it is hard enough. Every time something is raised, you tell us that this is in the works or you are studying this, or you are thinking of changing it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: If we were not, we would be doing nothing. We would just be sitting there. That is the best system and there is not one of us who is going to sit here and say, "We have got the best system."

Mr. Deans: The truth of the matter is that this particular system works tremendous hardship, if not economical hardship, which

anyone can see. There is a tremendous hardship on the people, just in their day-to-day living and the way that they have to deal with their problems.

They end up in a situation—one day they are getting X dollars handed to them and they think, "Well, God, is that not great?" They go out and they do something with it. A month later they get told, "We are sorry. That is wrong. The calculation we now have is different from the one we had before."

I am not saying that it is your fault that the calculations are different. I just feel that somewhere along the way we have got to have some kind of cushion, there has got to be some flexibility in the programme, so that if the people are in a situation where, by determination of the earnings submitted, they are eligible to get X dollars, that will continue for a period of time so that they know what they are going to be receiving in the way of an income, so that they can plan.

If the wife goes out in December and she works for a manufacturer that manufactures Christmas toys, and she works during the early parts of December and late November and works a hell of a lot of overtime, hoping to gain a little extra that they need in order to provide something different for the family over the Christmas season—or perhaps she gets her holiday pay given to her at that particular time—or any number of reasons that I can think of, her earnings would fluctuate during that period. She may just get a raise.

Whatever the thing is, it seems like a shame two months later, to turn around and take it back after the money has been spent. It is not really good enough for the government to say, "We are thinking about changing it," or, "We are concerned about the problem."

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are tied under the Canada Assistance Plan.

Mr. Deans: We are tied to a certain extent, but surely, we are entitled, as the government of the Province of Ontario, to introduce programmes of our own to compensate for these kinds of things?

Hon. Mr. Wells: You are, except that you will not get federal sharing if you do. This is the point.

Mr. Deans: Provided you want to get federal sharing! It is not necessary that we

have federal sharing in everything. It is entirely possible that we, as a government, could determine that there would be a cushion, which would be the responsibility of the Province of Ontario if the federal government will not enter into such a cost-sharing agreement.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Now, I have not said that they will not. In fact, the approach I take is that we have got to get the Canada Assistance Plan changed so we can change.

Mr. Deans: Assuming that that does not happen, assuming that there is no change forthcoming from Ottawa, assuming for a moment that they are not prepared to negotiate any change in their programme and the manner in which they make grants available in subsidy in the share that they pay—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am hopeful that they are.

Mr. Deans: —there is nothing to stop us in the interim period, as a government in Ontario, from setting aside moneys for the purpose of providing such a cushion, so that there is not a sudden change in a person's income in terms of some amount that they received previously, that they have already spent and a reduction that is brought about by a change that, really, they had no control over.

They cannot tell you—I am sure no one could—I could not tell you, other than the fact that I work here, on an hourly rated job in the beginning of January what I will earn in the month of January. I cannot tell you that. I have no idea. I might say to you that I get X number of dollars and cents an hour and I usually work so many hours. To calculate that out, it might well come to \$270, or it might well come to \$220, whatever it is.

I do not know. Maybe my boss will say to me, "Look we are going to have to work overtime, Thursdays, Fridays and all day Saturday, during the last three weeks of the month or during the last two weeks of the month," and that increases my earnings by \$80. By that time, I have received my cheque and the following month, the earnings could go back down again. I may be laid off a week.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right. That is exactly what is happening.

Mr. Deans: This situation just is not good enough for people. That might be okay when you are talking about paying your bills or something, but that is not okay when you are talking about other people paying their

bills. When they have responsibilities and their responsibilities are set up under a budget, we are going to have to find another way to make the payments, so that there is a more stable income. If a person is assessed as being disabled, he must receive an income in accordance with his disability, regardless of whether his wife is industrious and prepared to work a little harder.

If his wife is prepared to go out and work a little harder to provide a little more, we should be encouraging that. We should not be discouraging her. We should not be taking away from her total income. We should be saying, "Look, with your disability, you are entitled to X number of dollars a month. If you can improve on that, that is up to you."

That is how you create an incentive. If the wife wants to go out and work 60 hours a week, that is up to her. Otherwise, we are going to encourage her to sit home, and that is the very thing we do not want to do.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 2002 carry?
Vote 2002 agreed to.

On vote 2003:

Mr. Chairman: I think perhaps you received notices about this committee meeting tomorrow and we will meet at 10 a.m.

Mr. Ferrier: Are we not going to meet tonight?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Chairman, the cabinet meets on Wednesday mornings.

Mr. J. R. Smith: There are other standing committees.

Mr. Chairman: It will depend perhaps—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I thought it was accepted that we would not meet on Wednesday mornings.

Mr. Chairman: It may not be necessary, depending how we get along with vote 2003. This meeting is adjourned to 8 o'clock this evening.

Mr. Deans: We will have to deal with that later.

Mr. Chairman: That is right.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

Estimates, Department of Social and
Family Services

Chairman: Mr. O. F. Villeneuve

OFFICIAL REPORT—DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Tuesday, June 1, 1971

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Fred McIntosh Cass, Q.C.

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1971

The committee resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES

(concluded)

On vote 2003:

Mr. Chairman: I think, perhaps, on this last vote, if we took the items 1, 2 and 3, it may be the fastest way to deal with it. Or do you want to take them separately? Whatever you want.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): It is up to you. You are the Chairman.

I will speak about two items, then. The first one we have dealt with quite a bit in this committee already, concerns this whole idea of day nurseries. I noticed on May 8, 1971, a Gallup poll was published in the Toronto Daily Star in response to the question:

The royal commission on the status of women had recommended that a network of daycare nurseries be established. Parents would pay fees on a sliding scale and both federal and provincial governments would contribute to the cost. Would you approve or disapprove of such a project?

In Ontario, the results were 63 approved, 26 disapproved and 11 were undecided.

The point that really concerns me is about an institution in my own community. It is now listed as a private school. In order for that day nursery to be able to provide service for the community as a whole, it is essential that the municipal council pass a bylaw stating that they are willing to purchase service of that school for certain of the children of residents of that community. This particular school has been to council and they have been turned down flat. Council says—the mayor says, in effect—that he was not going to have any of the taxpayers' money going to that fancy home up in that particular location.

I happen to think that even though there is a day nursery for the welfare mothers of the community operated by the town, there is also

provision and need for that other facility for certain people. Once the municipal council blocks that kind of a move and this kind of an application, there is where it stops.

The minister made some response to that when he was here before the committee a couple of weeks ago. I wonder, if a municipal council is adamant and will not move or change its opinion in this kind of a situation, is there any way around it? Or are you proposing any amendments to the legislation that would make it possible for a school such as Nurseryland in Timmins to be able to provide a service for children—other than the very well-to-do children—so that they could benefit from this programme and get the kind of extra help and so on that comes from that kind of a nursery school?

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister of Social and Family Services): At the present time, if the municipality remains adamant in its approach to our programme, or works out a purchase of service from the private ones for those in need, there is no way, there is nothing we are doing at the present time to provide help for them. As I indicated to the committee, we are—

Mr. Ferrier: I gathered at that point that you were reviewing the situation. Is this a fairly prevalent—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not think I said I was reviewing that situation. I indicated that I thought there was a good case to be made for day nurseries for the local people whose wishes are represented by their locally elected people; for them to make the decision on day nurseries there. If they felt there was a priority for their area, we had the wherewithal to assist them to establish these. But if it was not one of their priorities, we were not directing, pushing or helping without going through the municipalities.

Mr. Ferrier: You are not going to change that in the foreseeable future?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not say we are not ever going to change it, but the point is that we felt day nurseries are an area where there particularly needs to be local involvement

and local concern and that the concern should be somehow connected with the municipal people. This feeling could change, certainly, but everything that we have in the programme so far is predicated on the municipalities playing a part in this operation.

Mr. Ferrier: This particular woman thought I was a no-good so-and-so because I could not get her the grants and so on. I pointed out to her that it was her problem with the municipal council and she had to deal with them but she was not very—

Hon. Mr. Wells: They never believe you, though.

Mr. Ferrier: No. I have one other problem that I perhaps might deal with. I do not know whether or not I shall have too much more to say.

According to figures that are contained in this Ontario section of the CELDIC report, there is a tremendous number of emotionally disturbed children in the various Children's Aid Societies throughout the province. A questionnaire was sent to 51 societies in 1968, to indicate how many emotionally disturbed children they had in their care for whom there were no appropriate facilities.

Of the 41 societies which reported disturbed children, there was a total of 816 wards for whom they had no appropriate facilities, and 328 of this total were described as severely disturbed. There were 488 less severely disturbed. I do not know what can be done in this department.

I know it is also under The Department of Health's jurisdiction to provide facilities, but there is a great lack of means of dealing with this particular problem. I notice that there are institutions. There is Browndale and there is another one used by the Children's Aid Society in my riding that is here in Toronto—I cannot remember the name.

They operate, I understand, on the residential type of treatment facility where they establish a kind of family situation. Now it seems to be meeting with a certain degree of success in dealing with this problem. I think it is a much preferable way of dealing with the problem than having to put these children in reform institutions. I think that is a pretty sad commentary on our whole setup.

It seems that this alternative family setting has some validity and some method of success in dealing with this problem. According to one of the psychiatrists who was on this CELDIC committee, he felt that this

programme would have a good deal of relevance if the children were kept in their own communities and that this type of treatment, either in an alternative family setting or some other method in the local community, was the way to deal with the problem.

Has the department given any consideration to making these kinds of treatment facilities available directly under the aegis of the various Children's Aid Societies in these districts where the children actually live and the society takes them as wards or deals with them? Has there been any thought given to this kind of approach or are we still wedded to putting these children into institutions, away from their homes, hopefully, that they will get the treatment they need there?

I noticed when that Act was proclaimed, The Mental—I forget—

Hon. Mr. Wells: The Children's Mental Health Centres Act.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, Dr. Rae Grant made a speech to a group of psychiatrists and she said that this was a very good step forward. I think we would all agree with that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: A very good step.

Mr. Ferrier: But there were no new beds made available, she pointed out. I think with this kind of a crisis—and you are well aware of it—I am wondering what The Department of Social and Family Services is doing to try to find some kind of adequate care for these children, to try to do what is necessary, if possible, to treat them and get them back into the stream of things so that they will not be completely hampered and so on for the rest of their lives. Is there any—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Of course, we are interested in things being done. The first thing I would say is there is a large group of these children now under The Children's Mental Health Centres Act. There are about 1,100 beds, if I remember rightly; this is not in our department, but I recall—

Mr. J. L. Brown (Beaches-Woodbine): There are 950.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There will be 1,100 very shortly then. There are new beds in the process of being added, and these are now the full responsibility of Health, whereas before they were Children's Aid Society wards; they were placed in the home and Children's Aid were paid on a per diem basis.

That is all wiped out now, and the sharing between the municipality and our department is gone and the institutions operate on a budget from The Department of Health. That is for those who require that level of treatment. I cannot really comment on what is going on. It certainly was my intention, when we proclaimed the Act and got the regulations finalized in Health, to see that there were new beds and new institutions added in that programme. I am sure this will continue, and that will take care of that level of care.

The other level, I think, is that we certainly encourage and support Children's Aid Societies to have group foster homes for children who are not of the level that need the intensive care of those institutions under The Children's Mental Health Centres Act, and, in fact, do what you say—keep them in their own community and keep them in a setting that will be conducive to their development.

Mr. Ferrier: One of the problems that these groups have found in having homes in a residential setting is that local ratepayers get up in arms and somehow or other do not want this kind of home in their own community.

I have got a case here before me of a minister friend of mine, a classmate, who was working with a group of boys. He said: "What we were after was a good middle-class setting—normal homes on a normal street in a normal neighbourhood. There is no point in putting these kids in a slum; that would simply surround them with the problems they were already facing, so if we were to put them in a normal situation, we needed some community." It was part of the kind of treatment that he felt was necessary.

I do not know how seriously disturbed these boys were, but here was a group—I suppose I would call them a bunch of self-righteous bigots—in that community, thinking that they did not want any children like this in there, it might reflect upon them or something. I think it is a pretty sad situation when the community is not prepared to accept some responsibility and show some kind of outgoing concern right within its own neighbourhood.

I think it is a sad reflection on this segment of society. I thought that they were a little more mature and a little more concerned about others within their jurisdiction and in their communities, but obviously they are pretty narrow-minded.

In view of the fact that this very well could be the direction that treatment will be going for a number of children—and I think it is also a direction that is being suggested for some of the mentally retarded—putting them into small homes and trying to integrate them within the community, somehow or other a lead has got to be taken, either to make the necessary changes in zoning or to educate the people that it is a responsibility and that they themselves can benefit by showing some outgoing concern and some involvement in helping these people to be integrated within society and to mix with normal people.

I just think it is a real sad reflection on our whole middle-class set of values. Many people who consider themselves strong church people are taking this kind of censorious and aloof attitude in trying to keep down a segment of society that needs help and needs encouragement and all the rest.

I do not know whether through your department you can take a lead in this and try to see that legislation is brought in to make the bylaws possible so that these kind of homes can operate in a usual residential setting. To me it seems like a priority where human need is involved and where children need help. It seems to me that a society, if it is going to be of any value at all, has to place a high priority on children who are in need of help, who are sick. The possibility of them getting well is very real with the proper kind of treatment. I just do not think we can let this kind of thing go on very much longer.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We do support the principle of group homes and we encourage their development by the Children's Aid Societies.

I think you have hit upon the key word in this—education. I have found from experience that there is no use trying to force these things; you have got to bring about a degree of responsibility through education in these areas. I think once this is done, they are recognized.

Mr. Brown: Does the department have a position?

Hon. Mr. Wells: A position on this?

Mr. Brown: Yes, with regard to restricted zoning for such facilities.

Hon. Mr. Wells: As I say, our basic position is that we believe that society should have group homes and that they should be

located in community settings. As far as restricted zonings are concerned, that is a municipal matter. We cannot—

Mr. Brown: Do you have a point of view on it, or is that the department of welfare?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that the actions that have been taken—we do not have a particular point of view on it—

Mr. Brown: Have you ever taken a position at any time in history?

Hon. Mr. Wells: —the position that I would take is that I would support the actions that Scarborough is now taking and Metro and North York.

Mr. Brown: What actions are those?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Scarborough has taken the position that gives these homes a blanket exemption, or a blanket zoning—whatever they call it—to allow these homes in areas that are classed as single-family homes.

Mr. Brown: But there are restrictions?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, there are certain restrictions, but I respect their—

Mr. Brown: Restrictions which have no basis.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —I respect their right to put those restriction on.

Mr. Brown: Let us just take a look at it for a minute. One of the restrictions that was just recently passed was whether or not it would be permissible for a staff member in such a facility to be unmarried.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is right.

Mr. Brown: The fact of the matter remains—and it will take maybe a few more years before the establishment and before this particular department understands it—that in order to properly staff such a facility, the staff should not be married. Group homes have failed historically, precisely because you have asked people to share their private lives with a group of children outside their family.

We can go on playing the game. We can go on throwing money down the drain. But until we realize that the children in such facilities have to be served by people who have a life outside those facilities, we are not going to get any place.

By taking this backward step, Scarborough has not improved the situation for zoning.

They have not opened zoning, they have just condemned the facilities in that jurisdiction to backward practices that are not going to produce the result if we want to give them that kind of facility.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I disagree with you, because I think that—

Mr. Brown: You may disagree, but the fact remains that historically it is the way I just stated it. You can disagree all you like to. I am just telling you something that historically—

Hon. Mr. Wells: If that is so historically why did the Children's Aid Society still believe in group homes with a man and woman married—a foster-type home? Why do they still establish—

Mr. Brown: And they are still failing. They are still failing.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is not what they tell me.

Mr. Brown: They do not understand why they are failing. They have not got around to looking at the details of why they are failing. And they are not going to get around to the details by—

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is not what they tell me.

Mr. Brown: One of the most retrograde acts by any municipality in recent times has been the Scarborough example. I think it just shows up, you know, precisely where this department is at when it comes to services to people.

You are not leading the way. You did not take a position at any time that would have meant support to the solid foundation and development of facilities. It was always in a negative position. It is still in a negative position. You cannot create good services for people on that basis.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You have been taking—

Mr. Brown: You can defend it, because you are the minister, but I am telling you, just as I said before to another minister in another department about it too, and time is going to bear me out.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It may bear you out that unmarried people should be in these homes, but I am just telling you —

Mr. Brown: And also your department has a negative position in that, too.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no. I am just telling you that the way to sell it to a municipality is at least to establish the homes with the married couples in there first and when—

Mr. Brown: No; the way to sell it is for the central government, the provincial government, to take a position on it, to set down legislation that sets limits on what kind of restrictions can be set, to have a public position, to have the courage of its convictions and to say, "We do not approve of this;" to say to the petty politicians in Scarborough and in Etobicoke, "This does not serve the province well. This does not serve your municipality well."

Hon. Mr. Wells: But, you see, you and I differ on this. These people are elected, just as we were elected, and they represent the viewpoints of the municipalities that the represent.

Mr. Brown: They are stating their point of view.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I know, but I do not wash aside their point of view completely. I mean, after all, they are there to do these things and they are given the responsibility to zone areas. We are not, and if we start interfering in municipal zoning in that area, why should we not interfere and say there will be no gas stations on corners?

Mr. Brown: Why do you not interfere as you have in The Municipal Act on development of land. Do not tell me that you do not have an authority.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We have overriding authorities in certain areas but still—

Mr. Brown: And you have abdicated your responsibility there.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We set out the ground rules under which municipalities may set zoning for different uses of land.

Mr. Brown: But you have not done it in this case, and you say you are not going to.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no.

Mr. Brown: I am glad to get a final position from you. It is nice to know where the policy of the department lies and whether or not people can expect help from the department.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am telling you the policy of this department is in favour of these group homes, but we respect the right of municipalities to reject them—

Mr. Brown: No.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —and to carry out their own zoning. If not, why not wipe out the municipal councils?

Mr. Brown: You do not have to wipe out municipal councils. You just have responsible guidelines for them, just like you do around land developments.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have told you they are responsible people and if you and I believe in this and educate them, they will do these things.

Mr. Brown: So why do you do it one area and not the other? Why is it appropriate around lakeshore development and not appropriate around kids? This is the part of the poverty of this whole government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not quite follow.

Mr. Brown: The provincial government stepped in and interfered with local authorities around whether or not they would develop certain kinds of properties in certain subdivisions. There was no problem about it doing that around land development. Why do you suddenly get meek and mild and weak when it comes to children? The same principle holds—

Hon. Mr. Wells: This is general zoning and planning but you are talking about individual decisions on what shall apply in single family homes.

Mr. Brown: Those are individual decisions when it comes to planning. The two are very similar in principle. One has the subject matter of children. One has the subject matter that deals precisely with the purpose of your department being in existence, the reasons why you spend the millions of dollars that you do.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All right, we support the kind of group homes that we are talking about—

Mr. Brown: You supported them away back.

Hon. Mr. Wells: But we still recognize the role of the municipality.

Mr. Brown: You are against sin and for motherhood but you do not do anything about it when it comes down to the decision.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You fellows are always the ones who are talking about the government closest to the people being responsive to the people. Well, let them be responsive.

Mr. Brown: Because these kids happen to be disenfranchised and there is nobody to speak for them, you decide not to speak for them, too.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no.

Mr. Brown: You play a pretty little political game because kids do not vote.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, no.

Mr. Brown: It is not becoming to your department and it is not becoming to you either.

Hon. Mr. Wells: It is not a kind of political game. Listen, do not start talking to me about that kind of stuff—

Mr. Brown: Yes, I certainly will.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —because we prefer ours to Brown Camps and Browndale. The kind of legislation that we have brought in is probably better than anything in any other jurisdiction in Canada.

Mr. Brown: It certainly is.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All right.

Mr. Brown: And I am the first to admit it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: So do not start talking to us. This government leads the way.

Mr. Brown: Then why do you turn around in this department and defend that kind of a position? Why do you not take the same lead in this department? You know you will have to drag a lot of people along with you who have been dragging their feet, but it would be a well worthwhile thing to do.

Mr. Ferrier: The thing I am wondering is do you ever intervene or use any kind of moral persuasion or such when this becomes an issue to try to change a council's mind, to point out the absolute benefit of this to the community, because after all there are in many respects social reasons. The society as a whole is largely responsible for breakdowns within our body. Do you use any kind of persuasion with a council when a home is—when a family type setting is trying to get established?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we do not do that.

Mr. Brown: You see, what it boils down to, Mr. Chairman, is this, that Scarborough denies treatment in its own community to children who need it. Now how can The Department of Social and Family Services sanction that kind of a position? On what basis can you justify it?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Oh, no, no. Scarborough has made changes that I think are going to be fine. You disagree with that, but I think that they will act for the good in Scarborough.

Mr. Ferrier: I am no expert on the subject, but I have some little bit of research and readings I think, in view of the crisis that is pointed out in many areas—and the first people that become involved are Children's Aid Societies and it appears that many of the workers, are at their wits' end as to know what to do for some of these children—that there has got to be a great deal more emphasis placed on treatment for these children.

I would think that with the number of children that are pointed out and the opportunities and resources that are in Children's Aid Societies, that in conjunction with these regional children's centres—I understand there are about eight of them now in the process of being set up or that have been set up in The Department of Health—that a much more intensive and wider treatment section, treatment activities, should be carried out in these district and in their own communities and their budgets perhaps increased to deal with this problem, because human suffering is a thing that needs to be dealt with very expeditiously, I think. Maybe children do not vote but surely we have got to have some humanitarianism about us and some real drive to move ahead and do more.

Hon. Mr. Wells: They are getting that in this department. We are encouraging this and we fully support this. We may differ in the methods of doing it. From an educational point of view we encourage this and I know the Children's Aid Societies do.

Mr. Ferrier: If my few words here tonight are in any way helpful to push you forward even a little bit in this programme I think that the time I have taken of this committee has been time well spent.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): I wanted to say something to you in this connection. I caught the latter part of what the hon. member for Beaches-Woodbine was talking about. The statement that you made in summing up the department's position and saying that to begin with the local council is closer to the people, I do not think in a lot of instances is true. You cannot make that kind of a statement. When you talk about the changes in zoning, or the zoning out of existence of certain things within the municipality, when you

do not take a position in regard to the zoning that is required to permit certain kinds of children's facilities to be integrated with the community, you really negate responsibilities that you have.

You have a much better chance of properly assessing the situation because of the staff that you have got and because of the research available to you. You have a much better chance of assessing the positive values of the developments as being proposed than does the local alderman who is working part-time at the job and who has to try to make himself aware of what is going on in his spare time. It is not a simple matter of zoning, where you take the objections, legitimate though they may be, the objections of the community and they become the determining factor in any decision that is made. The community reacts unfavourably to things it does not know much about. I think this is the basic problem. Unless the department takes a very positive approach to some of the newer aspects of assistance to children and the integration of children into the community, the community itself will reject it.

It is—if I might use another example—in some ways similar to the programme tried in The Department of Health in the outpatients programme in the mental institutions where they were moving great numbers of people out into the community. The community itself rebels, because it does not understand. It is afraid of the effects of this kind of change. It is afraid of the effect it has not only on property but also on the mode of living of all of the people in the community. Only people who have an opportunity to deal directly with those problems, and only people who are doing this on a day-to-day basis with the kind of research that you have on a full-time basis, can put forward the arguments that will satisfy the fears which are in most instances not well founded.

In the average community it may well be that the average alderman, or councillor, if you want to call him that, can determine whether a gas station should go on a corner or not, because that is a non-people type of thing that does not require any great deal of research. Whether it is on one corner or another really makes no difference. But the whole effect of the integrated programme of developing children's homes in the community, of providing them with the non-family atmosphere, or the non-family participation, the putting in of the worker, is something that can only be decided by people who are in the field. And it cannot be decided by

people who are looking at it strictly from the point of view of whether it appears on the surface to be offensive to some person in the community who does not understand it.

This is where the department has to involve itself, if not in concrete guidelines, at least in all of the discussions that take place with local councils and with the people in the community. You have got to have the kind of programme that will point out the very positive aspects of that kind of a programme to all of the people; they will not be able to sort it out for themselves. If someone came in to the place where I live and said that he was going to set up a group home in house number 36 I am sure that the people in that street would say no, they do not want it—because they do not know what it is; and they will never know what it is, because there is no place for them to go to find out what it is. And they will say: "No, do not change the zoning to allow that to happen here. It will affect my property values. It will affect the people whom I deal with in everyday life, it will affect my kids in the street." But it will not. You know it and I know it—it will not affect them.

If we leave it to the local alderman he will be influenced by the kinds of thoughts that go through the uninformed mind. This is what happens in communities. I saw an alderman the other day change his mind about the building of a swimming pool simply because some people said they did not want it. He did not consider whether it was beneficial to the community at large. He just saw 50 or 60 people standing up and saying that they did not want it, and they voted for him, and he did not have the opportunity that is afforded to you or me to get research done that would show the positive aspects of having these things developed.

I think this is what we are lacking. There are certain services to people that it requires a great deal of thought and effort to sell to the public, and this can be done only if the government of Ontario, with its resources, is prepared to spend the time and the money to sell it. If you leave it and hope that some day by some evolutionary change you are going to get a change in public opinion, by that point all of the benefits that could have accrued to all of the kids who might have used the facilities will have been passed by, and those children will have received something less than the best. I think this is why I do not agree with your position that the local councillor is closer to the people. He

may well be closer to their uninformed view in some things.

In the other instance I think that the government, and particularly The Department of Social and Family Services, has a responsibility in this area because it has at its fingertips the opportunity to present in an understandable form all of the positive benefits that can accrue from these programmes. I hope that you will not permit yourself to be influenced to any great extent in the development of programmes in the community by the simple fact that certain councillors, or certain councils for that matter, dealing in a very narrow view, do not see them as being positive and worthwhile.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am afraid I just cannot accept this position. I do not accept the position that when you try to group together all local politicians by using, say, one alderman who does this about a swimming pool—

Mr. Deans: Oh no, I am just—

Hon. Mr. Wells: But your general impression there is to leave the opinion that all elected people at the municipal level are some kind of uninformed, unintelligent types, and we up here have all the answers. And I just cannot accept that.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): He is forgetting local autonomy.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And I think that there have to be some areas where the local people—now as far as Metropolitan Toronto is concerned, the elected people in Metropolitan Toronto have available to them just as much expertise as we have here.

Mr. Deans: No, I do not agree.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Sure they have.

Mr. Deans: I do not agree.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Your people in Hamilton have.

Mr. Deans: As much expertise available to them as you do?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Certainly.

Mr. Deans: There is not as much expertise in the whole of Hamilton as there is in the one department.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You have got a department of social and family services in Hamilton, surely.

Mr. Deans: Are you telling me that the local county department of social and family services has available to it the same expertise that you have?

Hon. Mr. Wells: They have available to them, our expertise, if they wish to ask for it.

Mr. Deans: Except that they are not the people who make the decisions.

Mr. Chairman: I would like to keep this in order. Mrs. Renwick has expressed a desire to speak and she is next on the list.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am sure they would be happy to hear it. You say they are not the people who make the decisions.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton): Is he opposed to town councils?

Mr. Deans: At this particular point I am not satisfied with the way this has turned out and I want to continue with it.

First of all I said to begin with that there are areas where the people at the local level have not the opportunity to avail themselves of the expert opinion that you have. And if you do not exercise some kind of direction from where you sit they will not be able to determine these things—

Mr. A. W. Downer (Dufferin-Simcoe): It is going to take a long time to talk your way out of that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we do that. We are agreed on that. We do it through—

Mr. R. K. McNeil (Elgin): Simplistic routes.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —their staffs. We keep getting right around and around. We have given municipalities certain rights and functions in the social service field and we stand here to support and give them the benefit of our expertise and they, in turn, pass it on to the people who are elected in those areas. Now, if the people in Hamilton, if you say they are not doing their job—

Mr. Deans: I did not say they were not doing their job.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Henderson: Shame, shame—mercy.

Mr. Deans: Do not try to twist things around. That kind of thing is not becoming.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Hon. Mr. Wells: But you just said—

Mr. Deans: You disappoint me. You just said—

Mr. Henderson: He just said that the local aldermen were not doing their jobs.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): You are going to need a smart lawyer now.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think in Metro Toronto, that Metro Toronto has the expertise in their departments.

Mr. Deans: Do you think that a man working part-time at a job has an opportunity to avail himself of the same knowledge as you have?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not talking about a person who works part-time at a job.

Mr. Deans: Do you think that he has?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would say the members of the Legislature are not all full-time.

Mr. Deans: That is another problem. But do you think he has the same opportunity that you have?

Mr. Downer: He knows his town.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not follow the member.

Mr. Deans: Do you think that the local alderman has access to the same information and the same opportunity and the same time to study it and determine the benefit of it that you have?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I sure know that he does not want me marching down into his municipality and saying, "Look, I do not care what you say, you are doing this."

Mr. Deans: But he surely does want you to make available—

Mr. Henderson: That is what the NDP would do.

Mr. Brown: You were not thinking about that when you went to The Department of Education.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I was not in The Department of Education.

Mr. Deans: He surely does want you, though, to make it available to the people—not only to him—but to the people who have not got a chance to understand what is happening in the changing world. He wants you to make that information public to the average individual.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And we are doing it.

Mr. Deans: Where?

Hon. Mr. Wells: What do you think all our department does? I mean, all our programmes—

Mr. Deans: That is what we are trying to find out.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —through our various people, through the municipal—we got into this before—

An hon. member: Where have you been for the last four years?

Hon. Mr. Wells: The municipal welfare officers spend many hours learning about the total programmes of this department, not just general welfare assistance. They are concerned with the whole social service programme. Indeed, in Metro Toronto we do not call it the welfare department; it is the Metropolitan social services department. And they use—

An hon. member: That is right.

Mr. Deans: Call it what you want. Call an apple an orange, but it is still an apple.

Hon. Mr. Wells: —expertise from this department. What I am pointing out is that we have got a system here in which we have municipal initiative. If you want to change the whole system and take out all the municipal initiative, okay.

Mr. Downer: Co-operation, too.

Hon. Mr. Wells: If that is just what you want, but that is not my opinion.

Mr. Ferrier: I do not think he means you take all the responsibility. I think what really—

Mr. Deans: I did not say that.

Mr. Ferrier: —at least what I was saying—

Mr. Henderson: Take away the local autonomy.

Mr. Ferrier: —and I hope my colleague meant the same thing, is that a great deal more initiative should be taken by the provincial government—

Mr. Deans: Of course it should.

Mr. Ferrier: —to give leadership and to exercise a moral persuasion and put some pressures on. In the last analysis, I do not know if they say they are not going to do it, it is kind of a sad situation.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I did not say we would not put moral persuasion on. We certainly do use moral persuasion to adopt our programmes.

Mr. Brown: On this issue?

Hon. Mr. Wells: On that issue I told you we were not going to use persuasion to encourage—

Mr. Brown: You have never had a positive decision. Your department supported restricted zoning.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Zoning is a municipal matter and that is where it belongs.

Mr. Deans: Yes, but the zoning itself is just simply a tool of providing the service.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We put our moral persuasion on educating people to accept group homes and to accept this concept. That is where we will put our moral persuasion.

Mr. Deans: You do agree, though—

Mr. Ferrier: Put some incentive back into the whole business and it might make it more advantageous for them to change their municipal bylaws.

Hon. Mr. Wells: There are all kinds of components in this factor. We have got the Children's Aid Societies and their whole network of persuasion and operations. You see, this is a partnership arrangement as we see it. We do not dispense and operate the services. We depend upon a great partnership of people both at the municipal level, the Children's Aid level, all these levels to provide the services. If you want to wash out a partnership and have us do them all—

Mr. Brown: There has never been a partnership. That is fiction.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You and I disagree.

Mr. Brown: There never has been a partnership.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Do you not think there is value in a partnership? Do you—

Mr. Brown: I agree with a partnership and there should be a partnership, but there never has been.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Why has there not been?

Mr. Brown: Because your department overrides everybody in the partnership.

Mr. Ferrier: I understand in my area of Timmins, the Children's Aid Society, because of—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Now you are saying that here is so much power.

Mr. Ferrier: —so many children needing to be taken into care last year, their budget went away up. They presented it to the council and the council were as mad as the dickens. They did not want to budget the money and give it to the Children's Aid Society. They did it under protest.

I felt that it was kind of a sorry day when they were so reluctant to get behind the Children's Aid Society and encourage them in their work. I do not know. I suppose there is more education going to have to be done with all citizens of the province, because I think that services to people have to have some priority.

Municipal councils have been pushed and they are afraid of having to spend too much more money, because it means that they will have to go back to the property taxpayer and further put the burden on them and ask for more from them. They seem to be frightened of asking for money for services for people.

You said in previous votes that a great many programmes are under review and you hope to revise the whole grant structure for social services and for a number of things. I think this is darned important and I think that you have got to become increasingly aggressive in going to the Ontario Municipal Association, and all around, telling your story and trying to get a greater sense of appreciation and understanding and support from all peoples of this province and especially elected people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are always happy to go and do that.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, keep on doing it, because we certainly need it.

Mr. Deans: I want to ask the minister—if he decided that a location was suitable for some kind of home for the aged, or some kind of children's facility, and the province was doing to build it, would he go ahead and do it? If he thought that was the proper thing to do in order to provide a service? When we talk about another auxiliary branch of the same thing, he seems to be hung up on the zoning angle of it. The zoning part is only a component of the whole.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not hung up.

Mr. Deans: That is what I am saying to you. The local person is more involved in the feelings that are generated by the community than he is actually involved in the philosophy behind the providing of the service. That is not a criticism. It is just a fact.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but do you not think that has to be a component of this whole thing?

Mr. Deans: It is a component.

Hon. Mr. Wells: If I was to go to the member for Thunder Bay's (Mr. Stokes) area and just go in, I would not know anything about what is going on there. I would go up and just say, "There is the place where you put that."

Mr. Deans: No, that is not what you are saying. What you have to do as the minister in the department is to sell the whole concept to the local people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That we are doing.

Mr. Deans: But you have got to sell it on the understanding that you appreciate that you do not zone these things out of existence.

Hon. Mr. Wells: You know, I think we are making progress. You seem to think that we are not. I think we are making progress in this area. My philosophy is that you do not zone these individually. You get a blanket zoning. Once you have a blanket zoning, the things just happen. I do not feel that you put a sign up and say: "We have now moved in a group home at 65 Rosebud Crescent." It just happens and it comes in there, and it becomes part of the total community. Once you have had a controversy over it, I think it is worthless. Mr. Brown may disagree with me. I think it is worthless to have it in an area once

you have gone through a three- or four-month controversy and everybody has built up rigid positions.

Mr. Deans: Generally speaking, not knowing what it was that was going there in the first place. It is true, though.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, but regardless—

Mr. Brown: I think we are getting off the real issue.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Regardless of that, though—

Mr. Brown: Should your department have a position? Not should your department decide where the homes go. They should not decide where the homes go, but should you have a public position on this issue? Where are you—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I have stated our public position.

Mr. Brown: —where are you when these battles are being struggled with by the placement agencies? I have not heard the voice of this particular department saying one way or the other where they stood. I know from practical experience that not publicly but quite privately they have taken negative positions. I am saying to you, as the new minister of this department, I think it is time this department said to the public of Ontario, "We believe in the right for children to be served in any zones in any community in the province." Not that they have to be, but that you believe that this is a good thing.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is our policy. We believe in that.

Mr. Brown: It may be a policy but you have never stated it. Nobody knows it. Least of all the public—they have never heard it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I just stated it now. We believe in that.

Mr. Brown: I do not believe you believe it, otherwise you would have said it publicly before.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Renwick.

Mrs. M. Renwick (Scarborough Centre): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think after such a lively debate the subject that I am picking up will seem rather tame. Is it in order to go to day nurseries or are you taking the items one by one?

Mr. Chairman: It does not matter where it is.

Mrs. M. Renwick: It does not matter? It is being dealt with all at once, Mr. Chairman. Is that correct?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, any way you want to.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Part of the problem with the day-nursery field has been the lack of research and I would like to put on the record a recent publication which was received in the library here on May 14 from the Bureau of Municipal Research.

This stemmed from the government's new and significant change of policy regarding daycare to make limited capital grants for the construction of municipal nurseries and subsidies for the operation of limited forms of family day care.

I am just going to highlight points that I feel are important in this report, and the results of their research, their findings, and the people to whom their research was directed.

As a result of our research we feel that the public sector will have to become more extensively involved in daycare if help is to be given where the need is greatest—for instance, to the low-income single-parent families—and if day care is to be expanded beyond its present narrow association with welfare.

We are directing our comments particularly at local decision-makers who, as we point out below, have not yet taken full advantage of available daycare subsidies. Our comments are also directed at provincial policy-makers who have the power to expand and redirect daycare policies. We hope, however, that the comments will also be of value to those other people directly involved in the daycare field.

They describe daycare, Mr. Chairman, and, while those of us who have worked in daycare centres are quite familiar with what daycare is, it has now become so broad that I think the different types of daycare that are available should be listed.

Daycare is a general term referring to the care of children during the hours when they are not being cared for by one or both parents. It is care that supplements parental care, not care that substitutes for it.

There are many kinds of daycare, but in this "Comment" we are primarily concerned with various types of group daycare, the

care of children in a group, in a non-family setting, because it is group care that is most likely to be supervised and subsidized by the public sector. There are several kinds of group care. A day nursery is defined by The Day Nurseries Act as a place that receives for temporary custody, for a continuous period not exceeding 24 hours or more, three children under 10 years of age not of common parentage.

Now those of us who spent the day in committee in the day nurseries learned of that aspect of daycare, but daycare goes far beyond that type of daycare into a daycare centre which is operated on full-daycare and a nursery school which is operated on half-day sessions.

Then there are numerous examples of both types for three basic age groups—infants under 2, pre-schoolers 2 to 5, and school age children, 5 to 10. Then there are private commercial operated for a profit, private commercial operated for non profit, operated by parents, and municipal, generally operated by the local welfare or social service department.

Under the need for daycare, the report points out that the Province of Ontario probably has the most extensive organized and supervised daycare programme in Canada, but as has been argued many times by many groups it still falls far short of the present and potential need. Since there is no definitive study in need for daycare and since we have no new data to add to that already available, suffice it to say that in 1967 in Ontario there were 230,000 working mothers with children under 14, of whom 120,000 mothers had one or more pre-school children under 6 years of age, and 110,000 had only school-age children 6 to 13 years of age. Of these 400,000 children we can estimate that about 270,000—84 per cent—require some form of daycare arrangement, about 43,000 under 3 years, 54,000 3 to 5 years, and 175,000, 6 to 13 years.

The source for that, Mr. Chairman, was figures from "Working Mother." The statistics in this report were based on a survey conducted in April, 1967. A working mother was defined as having ever been married, or having worked some time during the survey week, or being a mother of one or more children under the age of 14 living in the same dwelling. It does not include women in the labour force and those who are unemployed, or not at work, in the reference week, nor does it include 40,000 mothers working without pay in family business.

Now while these statistics may seem rather dry, Mr. Chairman, I think it is very important that we get some idea of the magnitude of need for daycare and the limited resources that there are in the Province of Ontario.

Not all of these children require day nurseries, although we might point out that an American study of daycare showed that while only three per cent of the working mothers interviewed presently used daycare facilities, 47 per cent said that they probably would use the facilities if they were available, and that was from "Child Care and Working Mothers," a study of arrangements made for daytime care of children, a New York publication of the Child Welfare League of America, by Florence Rudiman.

While not all of these children would need day nurseries we should add that there are other potential users who were not covered by the survey of working mothers. The above figures do not include, for example, non-working mothers who need daycare, such as mothers who are mentally or physically unable to cope with their children, or who are simply in need of a break from them for the day. Nor do they include mothers who would like to work if they could find daycare facilities, and they do not include the parents who, regardless of whether the mother is employed or not, would use a day nursery as a positive educational experience for their children.

Thus there well may be a large group of potential users that the figures do not include, but even if we disregard these three groups of potential users, the maternal employment statistics rapidly point out the gap between lightly working population users and present facilities: 158,000 pre-school children have working mothers and there are 27,150 full- or half-day places in licensed nurseries.

Mr. Chairman, those are startling figures. If we have 158,000 pre-school children with working mothers and somewhat under 30,000 places for those children, one cannot help but wonder what sort of arrangements are being made for the rest of those children.

I will skip down now to the present facilities. As of December 31, 1970, there were 775 licensed day nurseries in Ontario with a total capacity of 27,150. Of that 27,150, however, only 10,700 places were available for full-daycare and therefore of help to families of parents who worked full-time, and the remaining 16,450 were for half-daycare. So we now have 150,000 pre-school

children with only 10,000 places of full-daycare.

Although 199 nurseries in Ontario receive public subsidies, about 150 of these involve purchase of service agreements between municipalities and private nurseries covering 6,380 children, 4,700 full-day and 1,680 half-day, rather than the creation of new nurseries. With regard to the creation of new municipally operated day nurseries which could add to the sum total of daycare facilities, the municipal response has been very limited, and that statement, Mr. Chairman, is the heart and soul of this whole report—the municipal response has been so very limited that the daycare centres in Ontario have not really grown in comparison to the needs at all.

Of the 42 daycare centres only 23 have been set up outside of Metro Toronto. These 23 had room for only about 1,000 children. Therefore there was room for only about 1,000 in municipally operated daycare centres outside of Toronto. Furthermore when we look more closely we find that many of those municipalities which had set up such nurseries were small—as small as 5,000 people—while many of those which had not been set up as such nurseries were among the largest cities in the province.

In fact as of April, 1971, 13 cities with a population of over 50,000 had no municipally operated daycare centres. The following cities have over 50,000 people but no municipally operated daycare centres: Brantford, Burlington, Guelph, Hamilton, Kitchener, Kingston, London, Oakville, Oshawa, Ottawa-Carleton, Peterborough, Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury.

Hamilton, Ottawa and Peterborough have one or more municipally operated day nursery schools. Ten of these have neither a municipally operated daycare centre nor a nursery school. Four cities of over 100,000—Hamilton, Kitchener, London and Ottawa-Carleton—have no full-day municipal nursery. This lack of municipal nurseries cannot reflect a lack of need for daycare facilities in these municipalities.

Even a decade ago in 1951 in Hamilton, Kitchener, London and Ottawa alone there were already about 65,000 children under 15 whose mothers were in the labour force. About 14,000 children under 15 in families with a female head and of these about 4,000 under 6 in families with a female head. A family with a female head is obviously dependent solely on her income, and therefore about 50 per cent of the wives in the labour forces of these cities had children under 15. This

was derived from the women's bureau of The Ontario Department of Labour. Quote:

Women in Ontario's economy in Toronto 1966 based on the 1961 census, obviously these figures would have increased considerably since 1961, but there are still no daycare centres to serve them.

There have been sharp increases both in provincial expenditures on daycare—from \$250,000 in 1960 to \$4,744,000 as tabled for 1970-1971—and on number and capacity of daycare facilities supervised by the province—from 360 in 1960 to 775; having a capacity of 27,150, in 1970 and including an increase of subsidized nurseries from 31 in 1960 to 199 in 1970. But on the whole, the facilities fall below the need. There is a heavy concentration of publicly supported facilities—particularly of full daycare centres—in Metro Toronto, while there is a severe shortage of facilities outside of Toronto. Given the generous grants made available by the provincial government, it is surprising that so few municipalities have set up adequate daycare facilities.

Well, Mr. Chairman, anyone dealing with the municipalities these days would know that they cannot afford to set up daycare facilities.

If these people really shared basic assumptions about daycare, there would be more extensive daycare facilities across the province. There would not be 13 urban areas with more than 50,000 people but with no municipal daycare centres.

Speaking of areas that are high density:

Consequently, parents living in high-density areas who use daycare should not be regarded as "deficient parents." It is perhaps the environment that should be regarded as "deficient." Nevertheless, the trend toward high-density apartment living in cities is liable to continue and increase. Daycare facilities, which can provide "space, companionship, exploration and adventure," may become not only a pleasant addition, but a necessary supplement to parental care...

"We see therefore, in that space, the opportunity for imaginative play, the intelligent provision of suitable toys, the facilities for movement and stimulus, are not merely desirable at the pre-school stage, they are essential. But the environment needed for such development is almost exactly the opposite of what we are providing in our communities today. The increased use of tower blocks to house higher densities in urban areas is creating a grow-

ing isolation for children at the very time when they need maximum space, companionship, exploration and adventure."

That is from "The Pre-School Years," William van der Eyken.

Mr. Chairman, it is quite obvious that while we have an expanding programme under the provincial government, at this time we are not expanding it anywhere near to meet the need, not just in the Metro area, but province-wide.

Most groups involved with daycare agree that not every parent is a good parent and that group daycare can be a positive supplement to parental care...

Whether one approves of it or not, one must recognize the fact that women just are not staying in the home. More and more women are working and even more are likely to start working. They make up a third of the labour force—compared with 23 per cent in 1950—and well over half of the women in the labour force are, or have been, married. In Ontario alone there are employed more than 230,000 mothers of over 400,000 children under age 14. The question, therefore, is not really whether or not women should stay at home—the women themselves have already decided that question—but what is going to happen to their children. By not providing adequate daycare we are clearly not keeping women in the home. But we may be denying adequate daycare to a lot of children...

There are many arguments that go beyond mere recognition of the fact that women are leaving the home. These say that since employment is good for the economy and for society as a whole—as is evidenced, for example, by the high percentage of women in the labour force; the active recruitment of female labour by business and industry; and the high proportion of females in certain jobs, such as clerical, and in certain professions, such as teaching and nursing—society must make adequate provision for the supplementary care of children.

That women who work do so from choice rather than from necessity. Some people feel that women who work do not "need" to, and therefore that the community should not provide daycare facilities. This might be called the "colour TV syndrome:" i.e., "I am not going to pay taxes to subsidize the children of a mother who is just working to buy a colour TV." This, however, is a false image of the working mother.

This attitude, of course, completely overlooks the families where the mother is the sole breadwinner—some one in 10 in Canada. Furthermore it ignores the statistics which show that the lower the husband's income, the more likely the wife is to work; that the median annual income of working mothers and husbands—where present—is \$7,032; and that the median weekly earnings of full-time working mothers are about \$65.

This attitude also overlooks the fact that private daycare—the proposed alternative to public daycare is generally so expensive—ranging from \$15 to \$25 a week per child in Toronto—that only relatively wealthy people can afford it. Most working mothers, whose median weekly earnings are about \$50 for full- and part-time workers, and \$65 for only full-time workers, simply cannot afford to pay \$15 to \$25 a week for one child or \$30 to \$50 a week for two children, and so on.

I will skip down, Mr. Chairman, to a quote:

In a society in which all of the goods money brings are expected to be the goals of all, few, except perhaps the poorest and most alienated, will resign themselves to deprivation, as they might in a more tradition-bound society. In an open society, whenever the husband's earnings seem inadequate to achieve the desired share of these goods, the family may try to redress the imbalance by placing additional members in the labour force; i.e., the wife as well as the husband may work. A high rate of maternal employment may represent social and economic mobility, in a largely egalitarian society.

And that is from "Child Care and Working Mothers," by Rudiman.

That daycare leads to family breakdown. This is a corollary of the above discussed "a woman's place is in the home." The reasoning is that if women leave home, the family will break up.

Many argue, however, that just the opposite is frequently true—i.e., that daycare can prevent family breakdown by relieving certain physical and mental strains on family life. "Daycare can also be tremendously supportive of families through periods of emotional and physical crises."

That came, Mr. Chairman, from the CELDIC report, page 76.

For example, there are husbands and wives who virtually never see each other.

Because no daycare facilities are available they are forced to alternate work shifts—one working during the day, the other during the night—so that one or the other is always at home to care for the children. If daycare facilities were available they could work at the same time and be able to spend time with each other and their children. There is also a growing number of people who feel that it is unhealthy for the family if a woman who wishes to start working is forced to stay at home. "There is also good indication that for the mother who wishes to work it is preferable that she do so rather than feel compelled, unhappily and resentfully, to remain at home."

Some people agree that group care experience is good for young children aged 2 to 5, but maintain that group care experience is not good for infants under 2. This belief is mistaken, and is generally based on results of tests on children who have been brought up exclusively in "institutions"—such as those mentioned at the beginning of this section—where children have been kept clean, neat and well fed, but have been denied the love and cuddling and any sort of environmental variety. It is not surprising that they showed negative effects.

There is a growing body of evidence, however, that the very young children can indeed benefit from group care. In Toronto, for example, the Mothercraft Society—in conjunction with Dr. William Fowler of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education—has been operating a daycare centre for infants from about 2 months to 30 months. The children have come from both "advantaged" and "disadvantaged" homes.

The Mothercraft programme combines physical care, free play and structured learning periods. The teachers are instructed to hug the children as well as to talk to them and "teach" them. The results, though the number of children involved is limited, have been impressive. One group of seven infants, for example, increased its mean IQ from 114 to 143.57 after 12 months of the programme. Another group of five disadvantaged children showed a gain from 92 to 115.4—a gain of 23.4 after nine months of the programme.

Not only did both advantaged and disadvantaged infants show significant gains, they also seemed to be happy and healthy babies. Therefore, while it is true that group care is not good for some infants who are unusually susceptible to infection, group care does seem to be good for most.

That daycare is—and should remain—a welfare service is a subject which should be covered, Mr. Chairman. Publicly supported, as opposed to private, daycare is at present operated as a welfare service. Large parts of the provincial grants are limited to persons in need; the programmes are operated by welfare departments; top priority given to low income families; and the vast majority of the users—at least in Toronto—are low-income, single-parent families.

Although it is certainly reasonable to first provide public service to those most in need, the welfare orientation definitely limits the potential expansion of daycare facilities to cover other needy families, middle-income families who cannot afford private daycare, and families of all income groups who recognize the value of early education for their children. Furthermore it may well discourage many very needy families who are repelled by the “welfare” stigma.

But daycare itself is not of necessity a welfare service. The fact that many upper-income families send their children to expensive nursery schools disproves this. As more and more people recognize the value of good daycare to all types of children and families, the welfare connotation will, we hope, diminish. A major point that many groups are trying to make is that daycare is not just needed by “problem” families but by great numbers of normal middle-class families.

Finally, many people feel that if there is really a need for daycare the private market will be trusted to fill it. Therefore, except perhaps for cases of extreme hardship, the community has no responsibility. Unfortunately this is not true. Provision of good daycare simply is not a large profit-making operation, just as good schools or good hospitals do not make large profits.

Daycare provision can only be profitable if it is very expensive, and therefore limited to the wealthy people who can afford \$15 to \$25 a week per child, or if it reduces costs, for example, by offering low salaries—\$50 to \$75 a week—for staff who consequently are often not qualified to provide the best, most intellectually stimulating care, and thereby reduces quality. The private market alone simply cannot provide enough daycare, at a high enough standard, to provide for the needs of the lower and middle-income families.

Infant daycare: Increased groups for infants seem necessary and inevitable. There is

growing evidence of need. For example, during a two-week period in April, Metro Toronto Social Planning Council recorded about 60 requests for infant daycare, and the Mothercraft Society, in addition to maintaining a waiting list of 75 for its programme, receives calls daily from people it must discourage from even placing their names on the list.

Furthermore there is a growing awareness of the value and acceptance of the idea of early education. For example, in recent months both CTV and Chatelaine magazine have publicized the idea of devoting time and space to the value of early education. Many problems, of course, remain. For example, at what age should infants begin group care? At six months as in the Toronto municipal infant nursery? Or two or three months as in the Mothercraft programme? Or from birth as in Denmark?

Whatever the age, it would seem reasonable to co-ordinate it with legislation for maternity leave. At present in Ontario there is legislation which requires all employers of 25 or more to provide for at least 12 weeks maternity leave of which six weeks must be post-natal. Other problems include money and staffing. Infant daycare is particularly expensive because of the large staffs required. Mothercraft, for example, has two teachers for every baby, three for every junior toddler, and four for every senior toddler.

Not only is this expensive but it is also difficult to find many people trained in infant care and education. So in addition to the money required for building and operating facilities for infants, money is also needed for hiring an adequately trained staff, and for developing and operating training programmes for infant care. This money is needed by private as well as by public nurseries.

To skip down to family daycare, it is not the solution to all daycare needs. For example, inner-city neighbourhoods where the need for care may be greatest—since there is a high percentage of low-income single families—may also be the areas where suitable homes for family daycare which meet provincial standards will be least likely to be located. Furthermore, it may be difficult to ensure that family daycare operators provide adequate education. Despite these problems there certainly must be a large reservoir of homes and people who, given proper supervision and training, can be tapped and provide an additional supply of good care.

To go to the parent co-operatives, Mr. Chairman, in 1967, 186,000 working mothers in Canada worked on weekends and about 141,000, or 26 per cent, worked evening shifts. Some people need daycare only one or two days a week. Municipal nurseries will not accept children on a part-time basis. Some people do not have a facility near them. Some cannot afford the transportation costs. Some people do not want to leave their neighbourhoods. Some do not speak English and do not want to leave their children with people with whom they cannot communicate. Many people do not want to use the welfare facilities. Many people do not qualify for municipal care and cannot afford private care. And some people want to have more to say about their children's care and what they learn.

To skip to the responsibilities of the municipality: Licensed nurseries must satisfy local building, fire and health standards. Not only have some parents had trouble threading their way through the maze of regulations, but they have also—particularly in inner-city areas—found it nearly impossible to locate a suitable building that could be brought up to standards, both local and provincial, without tremendous costs—\$20,000 is not an unusual figure.

They therefore have wondered (a) if all these standards were really necessary—fire doors and a great number of toilets or a great number of separated playrooms—and (b) if, since the authorities insist upon their meeting these standards, there should not be public funds available for them. There is no way that an inner-city group can realistically expect to raise \$20,000 by itself.

More and more people and groups are beginning to say that there should be universal daycare; that is, enough daycare facilities so that everyone, regardless of economic or employment status, who wants to use their daycare centre can do so. For example, the CELDIC report has recommended the creation of extensive neighbourhood daycare centres as a "preventive" measure, preventive of future emotional and learning problems; the Metro Toronto Social Planning Council has said that a change in attitude and community concern for not only the disadvantaged child but all children who need supplementary daycare, is needed. The royal commission on the status of women recommended the creation of an extensive daycare system. Some emphasize the benefits to society of working mothers; others emphasize the rights of women to choose whether or not they wish to work and

others emphasize the benefit to children and to society as a whole of providing good education and stimulating care.

If public daycare is to be vastly expanded, many questions must be answered. For example, who should administer it, if it is no longer to be exclusively a welfare service? Can Social and Family Services still administer it, or should Education, or Health or an entirely new child welfare department administer it, and who should pay for it? Should there be a sliding scale based on a means test, or should it be tax-supported like public education systems? Is universal daycare a thing of the distant future?

A very recent Gallup poll showed 61 per cent of Canadians and 63 per cent of Ontarians approved the royal commission on the status of women recommending that a network of day nurseries be established and that parents pay fees on sliding scale, both federal and provincial governments contributing to the costs. Perhaps universal daycare is not so far away, but it largely depends on how responsive decision-making at all levels is to the increasing public demands for daycare.

Mr. Chairman, in my previous comments as critic of this department for the New Democratic Party, I have never spent a great deal of time on daycare because of the lack of research, because of the stalemate that seemed to be there, until quite recently. I think that this Bureau of Municipal Research report deserves the time it took to record, because it has been put together in a perfect fashion for showing that daycare is a need for a growing problem, right from beginning to end. I would like to ask the minister can he see daycare being transferred from welfare to Health or Education, particularly into Education?

Hon. Mr. Wells: At this point, my answer, Mr. Chairman, would be no. I would be rather interested in knowing on what justification the hon. member, for instance, would suggest that it be transferred to Health. I can think of no criteria where it would belong in The Department of Health.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Education was my natural avenue.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, well you could perhaps make a case ultimately for daycare services coming within The Department of Education, but of course you are falling into the pitfall that a lot of people fall into about this department, and about municipal welfare

services. This is not the department of welfare; this is The Department of Social and Family Services, or department of social affairs, if you will. In other words, we do not just handle, necessarily, services for people on welfare, but we handle services for people. Even though our major emphasis is on daycare at the present time as it would be for those on assistance, there is no reason why we cannot broaden out within our department and be a social service for people.

Mrs. M. Renwick: The only way I could see this programme falling under Health would be from the information put forth by the CELDIC report that the emotionally disturbed children could be spotted much earlier if they were in school, and if they see the hypersensitive child at an early age.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think that of the special daycare facilities, which indeed there are, certain of them belong to Health. But I do think that would even more drastically limit your whole approach to daycare to put it into Health. There are certain daycare facilities which are fundamental to The Children's Mental Health Centre Act. There are treatment centres for the emotionally disturbed. I think that if I were to look into a crystal ball and project a long way ahead, of course, ultimately I guess you could see daycare becoming part of the educational system because I think that the emphasis, as it becomes more and more universal, will tie in with the school system because you are now developing junior kindergartens for four-year-olds. If you develop some type of daycare programme for three- and two-year-olds, and you develop, which I think is perhaps a reasonable way, some type of facility on to a school building which is an already equipped community building, you can see the whole thing evolving as a total programme. But that is a long way off, I would think.

Mr. J. E. Bullbrook (Sarnia): It is not that far off. Your community colleges are spending a great deal of money right now on early childhood education. You realize that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I know.

Mr. Bullbrook: There is a significant import to what the hon. member for Scarborough Centre said.

Hon. Mr. Wells: What I am—

Mr. Bullbrook: As a matter of interest, have you any idea how much money the Council of Regents are appropriating to early

childhood education now through the community college programme? That is an unfair question, but it must be a significant amount of money.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I would not have any idea.

Mr. Bullbrook: I am just wondering, is there any integration of what the hon. member asks with your department in this connection, because it is an overlap—

Hon. Mr. Wells: The reason I say I see this further in the future is there are going to have to be a lot of things changed before we develop daycare as a part of the total educational process in a community—the funding, and so forth.

Mr. Bullbrook: From the layman's point of view, when you talk about junior kindergarten, you are talking about four-year-olds, are you not?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Bullbrook: One has to invite the question, therefore, of what ages your day nurseries are taking care? One would think they are taking care of probably three- or four-year-olds—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Some of them are taking children mostly aged over 2, but we are now starting into the infants, six-month to two-year-old ones too. You see, what is happening, as I told the committee—we spent a day, I think, on daycare, and I indicated to you then—we are just now in the process of sitting down, our department, with Metropolitan Toronto; with the council and the Metropolitan Toronto School Board to talk about the possibility of building daycare as part of school buildings.

If this pilot project gets going in Metro—and indeed there is one coming because Ontario Housing, as I indicated to the committee, has made an arrangement with the school in Scarborough, to build, to give them the money, and to put the daycare facility on to a public school. In fact, we will have one of these but this was under a special capital financing arrangement.

I do not know the details of it; it is still in the negotiation process, but Metropolitan Toronto, our department and the Minister of Education (Mr. Welch) are all going to sit down to look at what legislative changes would have to be made to let school boards or municipalities get into this area. It might be that the school boards do not want to, but the municipalities would run the daycare

centres attached to the schools. This would all have to be worked out.

Mrs. M. Renwick: Could you possibly envisage—the \$5,000 item allocated for the Association for Early Childhood Education—could you foresee that somehow, from that particular item, there might be a workable way of working it into Education? It is the bottom of the day nurseries services; the \$5,000 item.

Hon. Mr. Wells: That is a grant to associations to do—I am sorry, you mean that somehow the whole thing could work into Education?

Mrs. M. Renwick: That that might be a—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You mean that grant or the whole matter of daycare?

Mr. Deans: What we are talking about—the minister is aware, of course, that the Association for Early Childhood Education is attempting to develop a curriculum together with all of the other things that go with it, including perhaps, coming under a special Act and receiving the right to establish their own standards, to provide education for children up to the age that presently permits them to enter existing educational services. You are aware of that?

Now, does the minister see using this facility as a means of extending, both in educational terms and in daycare terms, the facilities that are now available to children to such an extent that they may well be a part of the educational structure? That instead of children starting school at age 5, because of the use of this kind of facility and this kind of developed curriculum, there may well be the opportunity for children to—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I really cannot go beyond what I have told you; that I can see this possibility developing but it is not up to me to decide that it will go into Education.

Mr. Deans: No.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I think we have a way to go yet. We are charged with the responsibility at this point, and in these estimates there is a vote for daycare in the day-nursery services and that is, for this year anyway, our responsibility.

Mr. Deans: Then are you actively promoting the early childhood education association concept of providing rather than just a supervisory daycare type of programme, a programme of educational facility and the devel-

opment of the child in a planned educational way? Are you promoting this?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes, I understand that is the case.

Mr. Deans: Are you carrying it then out into the existing facilities? Is there any kind of liaison between the association and the department that carries the programme from the embryonic stage that it is now in, out into the existing facilities to ensure that there is some kind of uniform educational undertaking?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I do not know that we have got to the point of having a uniform educational component in this, but there is encouragement through our branch to encourage this type of programme. It probably still varies from place to place.

Mr. Deans: You are aware that the goal of the association, of course, is to establish a uniform educational programme throughout nursery and daycare centres in the Province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wells: Yes.

Mr. Deans: And that—

Hon. Mr. Wells: We support their efforts.

Mr. Deans: Through the grant, I understand.

Hon. Mr. Wells: When we give anybody the money it means that we support their efforts. If we disagreed completely we would not give any money.

Mr. Deans: Aside from giving them \$5,000—which in itself is not nearly enough to do what they want to do—is the department actively discussing with them the possibility of promoting this on a much wider scale, into the areas where all of the money is being spent? You know, we are spending almost \$4 million. Is it the objective of the department to see day-nursery services and daycare services adopt the general theme of the association for early childhood education? Will the end result at some point be that in order to qualify, those facilities will have to be made available in accordance with the programmes that are being established by the association?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are in the process of talking with them about the ways that this could be done; we are not in the process of actively promoting their programme at this particular time. There are things that have to

be ironed out; what they want to do and what we—

Mr. Deans: Well, my recollection at the moment is that they are actively pursuing a charter of some kind, and the establishment of an Act under which they will operate. What is happening in that regard at this time? Of course, the passage of such an Act would be a clear indication of the intention of the department and the government to involve itself in this kind of a programme. It would flow from that, I suspect, that education for children would then begin at an earlier age. It may not be mandatory but nevertheless it would be available.

Mr. Bullbrook: That is very interesting. Would you entertain a question? Do you support the proposition that it should be universal and compulsory?

Mr. Deans: Do I support that it should be universal and compulsory?

Mr. Bullbrook: Yes.

Mr. Deans: No, I support the proposition that it should be—

Mr. Bullbrook: Available? You like the word "available"?

Mr. Deans: No, what I am saying is—now that you have asked, what I say is that I think that where education is being offered in the nursery system, the education should be universal in terms of it being equal throughout the province; that a child receiving it in one area should be receiving a similar education in another area.

Mr. Bullbrook: Well, I am happy to hear you equivocate it. If I might, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Deans: I am not equivocating, that is what I said to begin with.

Mr. Bullbrook: Well, when I say "equivocating," I do not disparage you in using that phrase; I trust you do not accept it as such. I would have hoped it is not universal and compulsory.

Mr. Deans: No, it could be universal without being compulsory.

Mr. Bullbrook: Right.

Mr. Deans: Those two things are entirely different.

Mr. Bullbrook: I am interested in your party's stance on this, because I have definite ideas—

Mr. Deans: I am glad that you are.

Mr. Bullbrook: —and I am interested in the minister's standpoint.

Mr. Deans: So am I.

Mr. Bullbrook: He equivocated, frankly.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Our position at this point would be that we at this point in time are not ready to accept the premise that there should be an equal universal sort of type of education in every daycare centre. We support the general principle of the programme in a daycare centre being educational in content, but we are not—

Mr. Deans: But you do not care what they do as long as they call it education?

Hon. Mr. Wells: We care, but we are not saying that there should be a universal absolute curriculum across every centre.

Mr. Deans: So that you are not prepared—

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are willing to sit down and work with this group, but I think we have much further to go.

Mr. Deans: You are not prepared, of course, to support then the things they are after? You are not prepared to support legislation to establish them?

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Chairman, I do not think that is fair at all; it is not what the minister said.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All I can say is—

Mr. Bullbrook: Are you saying that at four years of age we have to have a rigid, established curriculum available to four-year-olds? Goodness gracious! Let us hope we never come to that. Because they do have that in some nations in the world. You understand me? I trust in the Province of Ontario we will not become that rigid.

Mr. Deans: If and when you become the minister, you can answer.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Do not raise any bogies.

Mr. Bullbrook: No bogies at all.

Mr. Deans: What I am trying to point out—

Mr. Bullbrook: Do not deflect the issue as you do all the time—no bogies. You dream of bogies.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Let me just say that I have never been asked personally to support any Act or change in legislation—

Mr. Deans: The department has.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I have never been asked.

Mr. Deans: But you are just passing through, the department is permanent.

Hon. Mr. Wells: If anybody wants an Act of the Legislature to establish anything he has got to come to me. It cannot pass the department.

Mr. Deans: I agree, but the truth of the matter is that you, as the minister in a transitional period, you may be here for six months, you may not be here for that long.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, we will be here longer than that.

Mr. Deans: No, you may not, for heaven's sakes. The department will be there long after you have gone. Okay. What I am trying to determine is whether or not the department supports the move that is under way by the association. That is the important thing. I want to know whether the department is prepared to grant to that association the rights that they are asking for.

Hon. Mr. Wells: At this point in time all I can tell you is that we are willing to sit down and talk to them. I do not know enough about what they are asking at this point in time.

Mr. Bullbrook: Mr. Chairman, may I record something? I just want to say, peripherally to this discussion—be it boggy or not—that I, as one member of this Legislature, would not support at any time without a great deal more persuasion the advancement of a proposition that as part of our universal education system we integrate four-year-olds in what could be called a rigid curriculum. I see no advantage in that. I see great advantage—

Mr. Deans: Where did that come from?

Mr. Bullbrook: Well no, let me say this to you. The point is that when you put to the minister a question, "Do you support a proposition favoured by the association?" you recognize that the proposition favoured by the association is full of all types of intricacies and generalities, and I say this to you, that I just want to record—and you can take issue with it if you wish—on my behalf and on

behalf of my constituents, and they might take issue with it themselves, that I do not like to see at age 4 the beginning of a compulsory severance. I am not saying for one moment that you suggested that, that the hon. member for Wentworth recorded this; I am not saying you recorded this, but I want to record without reservation that I do not subscribe to an attitude that there should be a rigid compulsory integration of four-year-olds into the educational system.

And I express great concern at the money being spent by The Department of Education at the present time in connection with the education of what they called early childhood specialists, because the fact of the matter is that the word "specialist" is a non sequitur; they are not specialists.

Mr. Deans: That is what I am trying to get at.

Mr. Bullbrook: Well maybe we agree then. Maybe I misunderstood the member for Hamilton Wentworth. Interrupt me if you wish.

Mr. Deans: I would not interrupt you. You and I can argue over a coffee any time, I am trying to ask him not you. Your view—

Mr. Bullbrook: Well, I am not finished. I want to record this. I want to say to you that you should be very concerned, having regard to the responsibilities vested in your portfolio, the money being spent in this connection. I do not want to waste a great deal of time; we will do this elsewhere. Frankly, it is a self-serving device on the part of the community colleges—there is no doubt about it—and the fact of the matter is, Mr. Minister, that these young people are coming out and have no place to go.

You must, as a matter of necessity, interest yourself in what The Department of Education, and in particular the boards of regents and the boards of governors of the community colleges are doing in this connection. It intrudes to a great extent on your present responsibility and it bodes ill for us in connection with what is regarded by some of the public at large as state intervention from the cradle to the grave. Again that sounds like a boggy. I do not mean it to be a boggy. But it is a concern that we must express and must have, in my opinion, recorded in the papers of this House.

I was very pleased to hear the minister say that he has not established a position in connection with this thing and I hope he will entertain my thoughts in relation to it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I would be happy to entertain some of them, but I am not sure I can share your thoughts about the graduates of the early child education course. Because whether we like it or not, the evolution of day nurseries is coming about; and while I do not in any way, as I say, necessarily support any rigid educational programme for these facilities, I think we need trained people in the facilities each one using his own initiative and ingenuity to develop his own programme. I think that these are good people who are coming out of these community college courses.

Mr. Bullbrook: That is beneath the dignity of your portfolio. Nobody ever insinuated or directly said that they were not good people.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, but you seem to indicate there was a bunch of these people being trained who were not going to be needed. But if the day-nursery programme continues to develop, there will be jobs there for these people.

Mr. Bullbrook: Well then, it is highly untoward of me to ask you to give me a statistical evaluation of the job availability for the graduates of the early childhood education programmes in the community colleges; suffice it to say that my information is that—now maybe you can—

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I mean—

Mr. Bullbrook: I do not think it is fair to ask you that.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I cannot tell you that. All I can tell you is that about 77 new day nurseries opened up last year and probably 80 to 90 will open up as the programme develops. Now some will say that is too many, some will say it is not enough—

Mr. Bullbrook: As a matter of interest, have you any idea of the number of students in this programme at Lambton community college?

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, I am afraid I do not.

Mr. Bullbrook: Right. It might service the whole needs of the Province of Ontario; that is the point I make.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, you know, I sometimes cannot—we do not have that—

Mr. Bullbrook: Why not? Well that is fine. You see, you responded, inviting my question and the fact—

Hon. Mr. Wells: The staff indicates that perhaps there are 300. Now perhaps before you asked the question, you had the answer.

Mr. Bullbrook: I would not ask the question, sir, if I did not have the answer.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Is 300 about right?

Mr. Bullbrook: No. The point is this—and I think it is a meritorious point; it is not just a question of discussion for the sake of discussion—really we are getting into a situation which I regard as the elasticizing of the responsibility in the total field of education. And I wonder whether it is for the benefit of the children, and I say this most respectfully, or for the benefit of those people who administer the programmes. This is what we are concerned with as members of the Legislature. And since we are getting into the question of government assistance—

Hon. Mr. Wells: You left out one other group there: it is also for the benefit of the parents of the group.

Mr. Bullbrook: Of the parents themselves.

Hon. Mr. Wells: And, let us face it, our entire programme is a glorified babysitter service.

Mr. Bullbrook: Let the record show—

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am using a colloquial expression, but really that is what it is.

Mr. Bullbrook: Well, let the record show that in leaving out the parents it was tacitly understood that if you benefit the children, you benefit the parents. Right? So I did not obviously leave them out.

The point of fact is that in some instances, not many, if you took them away from the womb you would benefit the parents. But that of course begs the question—

Hon. Mr. Wells: Well, I am not disagreeing but—

Mr. Bullbrook: Wait! This is an exaggerated simplification of the responsibilities of government; that is the point I make. We are really getting down to essentials, Mr. Chairman, and this really is the essential responsibility of this minister: to investigate what is being done by The Department of Education in connection with this matter—not in connection with the usurpation of your functions, because it is not a function of any portfolio; it is a function of government as a whole.

We all recognize that—and I suppose I have attempted to be less than nasty in saying this—and I just invite your most respectful consideration of this, that you should look into what the community colleges are doing and where they hope to go. Maybe you have done this already and maybe you can relieve my concern in this respect. I am inclined to think we are again spending too many public dollars for programmes that really do not serve the public weal.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I really feel compelled to get into this in a mild way. The proposition that the Province of Ontario is misdirecting resources when it is training 300 child-care workers in a year is just too ludicrous to contemplate for more than a passing moment. I am not interested in examining what is wrong there; I am interested in examining how we can get these people into doing a job in a dozen and one areas.

Mr. Bullbrook: That was not the proposition. Again you deflect. I remember it was once said—

Mr. MacDonald: Will you not interrupt me for a moment?

Mr. Bullbrook: No, wait. You say 300 students is ludicrous, and you should not do this. In fairness to an appropriate debate, why do you do these things? Put forward a sensible but not provocative stance. Why do you do it all the time?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. gentleman thinks he is in court and pours his unction on me I am going to be somewhat submerged by it.

Mr. Bullbrook: I do not think I am in court at all.

Mr. MacDonald: I am not for one moment going to be deflected by your unction.

Mr. Bullbrook: When I deal with you I never think I am in court. Most of the witnesses that I deal with—

Mr. Deans: Will you guys argue someplace else?

Mr. Bullbrook: No, that is fine. I do not think I am in court at all. I just ask you not to misappropriate to me any phrases.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, the point, I was making when I was deflected was the proposition that I think the training of 300, indeed 3,000, child-care workers in the Prov-

ince of Ontario would not be a misappropriation of funds. What I would like to see in this department, in many private agencies, in many provincial institutions where there is a desperate need for some degree of skill in child-care workers, is to make them available and to get them integrated.

Now as I understand it—and we have heard this in the House before in this department and some of the agencies that come under its direction—there has been a tendency not to permit, or sort of not to welcome their involvement in the numbers that originally we thought there was a place for. It is in that area that it seems to me that there should be some analysis rather than going to the council of regents.

Mr. Bullbrook: Would the member permit a question? Do you have any idea of the curriculum available to early childhood education?

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, I do, because I have one member of my family who went through it and I think I know a bit about what I am talking about.

Mr. Bullbrook: Do you really feel that after this year's study they are really sufficiently trained to undertake educational responsibilities? You understand we are not talking about day-nursery services; we are talking about integration into the mainstream of education. This is exactly what I am talking about.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Mr. Chairman, I think the programme as offered by the various community colleges is certainly forming a very useful role in our society in providing trained personnel for these day nurseries. I know in our community the nursery field is certainly, I would not say mushrooming, but it certainly is a growing trend.

The one thing I would like to see developed by your department or the child care nursery branch, is the possibility of using vacant school facilities. We all know that there is a levelling off in enrolment in certain areas of the province I have seen, in visiting some schools, empty classrooms.

Undoubtedly many of the present co-op nurseries, which are converting either private homes or church facilities for use as day nurseries, might very well be going to a great deal of expense and sacrifice on behalf of their members and the various organizations concerned when, in fact, there might very well

exist in the community even superior facilities which are sitting idle.

Various nurseries and co-op nurseries take youngsters by bus great distances to attend their day nursery. Undoubtedly, the same thing could be done if some form of rental arrangement could be worked out with the various school boards. This is something, of course, on which I think a dialogue needs to be established among the Association for Early Childhood Education, your department, The Department of Education and, perhaps, the representatives of the school trustees' associations and so on.

I think we have now got to the point where we can use our schools for after-hour recreation facilities and programmes and we can see a real opening-up and a utilization of these facilities in after-school hours. Also, use during the summer vacation is another trend. Surely if there are empty facilities in some of these buildings, they also could be put to use?

The hon. member for Beaches-Woodbine has left, but he raised the matter of staffing the group homes. We in Hamilton are very fortunate that we have a very progressive city council. It was a number of years ago that they passed an all-embracing city by-law, where a group home can be established by the Children's Aid Society anywhere in the boundaries of the city of Hamilton; it is a blanket thing. So in that regard we are ahead of many, many other municipalities.

But the member for Beaches-Woodbine stressed here this evening the problem faced by Children's Aid Societies in finding a couple who will staff the facilities. Of course, the second problem is trying to find a five- or six-bedroom home and that is not always easy to do.

The member for Beaches-Woodbine stressed the point that very often the group homes failed because this one couple is tied to the programme in that group home. We had a similar situation in the city a few years back when the juvenile detention centre, which operates in a small home, primarily operated through the services of a couple. You can well imagine how difficult that was to operate effectively and satisfactorily. Since the province has taken over, this whole programme has been greatly changed and we have a whole staff of people who go in by the day on a shift basis and operate the centre.

Surely a similar arrangement could be worked out in staffing group homes run by Children's Aid Societies? If The Department

of Justice can do it for juvenile detention homes, surely we can likewise follow a programme in our various group homes?

One of the real tragedies is that so many of these youngsters do have to be sent away from their community, and I would like to see the group homes not necessarily, as the member from Timmins (Mr. Ferrier) said, in a middle-class district. I think for the children who live in the inner core of the city there should be a group home in that area, so that they can live in their own particular environment, an environment to which they are accustomed and where they are most happy.

This is one area where I think the group home programme of some of the Children's Aid Societies is really not operating. It was initiated perhaps three, four, five years ago, and I would like to know from the minister how this programme has grown in the major centres—Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton—because, as far as I know, in Hamilton they have been started and then phased out and started again.

I know the Catholic Children's Aid Society started one four years ago and I believe they still have only one group home. The concept, I think, has tremendous possibilities, but it is being hampered by the idea that you must have just one couple run the home, and that is a tremendous undertaking for anybody. I certainly would not want that responsibility myself, to be tied to it 365 days of the year with all the problems.

I know they have the backup of the Children's Aid Society personnel and their counsellors and their child psychiatrists and everything else, but a great deal could be done perhaps if, as the member for Beaches-Woodbine said, auxiliary personnel, single people, were also involved in the programme.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, I have not got a list of the group homes here. We could probably get you one; they will have to be compiled. All I have is a total figure.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Yes, I would like a sort of statistic for the last four years, say, for those three centres.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All I have is the total figure: there are 731 children in group homes as of March 31, 1971.

Mr. J. R. Smith: The type of group home that I am referring to—perhaps we have a different concept here—is a group home as a five-bedroom operation. I am not talking of

foster homes, but a large group home of five, or six, or eight children.

Hon. Mr. Wells: No, these are family type operations of three, four or five people with children. There are 731 in that type of home. I will get you the list, it will take us a few days. We will have to get that from the Children's Aid Societies in the areas you mentioned.

Mr. Chairman: Any more discussion under vote 2003?

Vote 2003 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: This completes the estimates of The Department of Social and Family Services.

The committee adjourned at 10 o'clock p.m.

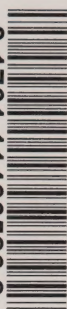
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